

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

EDITED BY FREDERICK & EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

VOL. II., No. 52.

FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 1909.

Price 1d. Weekly. (Post Free.)

JUDGMENT IN A HIGHER COURT.

**Glasgow Bye-Election Result: Scott-Dickson (U.), 7,298; Gibson Bowles (Lib.), 5,185
Conservative Majority, 2,113.**

(At the General Election the Liberal candidate was returned by a majority of 431.)



WITNESS (Mrs. P-th-ck L-wr-nce): "The prisoner has refused us the application of Liberal principles."

PRISONER (Mr. Asq-th): "My defence is that Liberal principles do not apply to women."

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Articles and news contributed for insertion in "Votes for Women" should be sent to the Editors at the earliest possible date, and in no case later than first post Monday morning prior to the publication of the paper.

Subscriptions to the paper should be sent to The Publisher, "Votes for Women," 4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.

The terms are 6s. 6d. annual subscription, 1s. 8d. for one quarter, inside the United Kingdom, 8/8 and 2/2 abroad, post free, payable in advance.

The paper can be obtained from all newsagents and bookstalls.

For quotations for advertisements, apply to the Advertisement Manager, "Votes for Women," 4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.

DEDICATION.

To the brave women who to-day are fighting for freedom: to the noble women who all down the ages kept the flag flying and looked forward to this day without seeing it: to all women all over the world, of whatever race, or creed, or calling, whether they be with us or against us in this fight, we dedicate this paper.

The circulation of VOTES FOR WOMEN advanced to 16,000 copies last week, but in spite of this increase the number was sold out at the beginning of this week, too late for further copies to be printed. As a result, a number of intending purchasers were disappointed. While making all efforts to prevent this in future, we ask our supporters to send in their orders as early as possible so that they may be executed in due course.

THE OUTLOOK.

With one of the editors in prison for her principles, we are determined that there shall be no loss in the effectiveness of VOTES FOR WOMEN as an organ of political attack upon the Government for their refusal to grant to women constitutional liberty. We are glad to be able to reproduce this week an article written by Mrs. Lawrence before she was sentenced, announcing to our readers her special wish that the circulation shall be extended during her absence. Acting on this, a special VOTES FOR

WOMEN week is being arranged, particulars of which are given elsewhere. We know that we can count upon our readers to make this proposal a tremendous success.

In Holloway.

With the exception of a visit accorded to Lady Constance Lytton, Mr. Gladstone has been more than usually obdurate in refusing visits to the prisoners in Holloway, and therefore very little is known of their condition. It was understood that before they went to their cells they intended to make a representation to the Governor, protesting against being searched, and also against the rule of silence. From the prisoners who were released on Saturday last information was obtained that they were successful in so far that they were not searched, but it is not yet known how far the rule of silence is being enforced. Mr. Gladstone adheres to his intention to detain the women in the second division, thereby violating the principles of treatment allotted to political prisoners in all civilised countries. The divergence between his treatment of the women, and that of the Irish political prisoners, was called attention to by Mr. Balfour in the House of Commons, and by other Members of Parliament.

Self-Denial Week.

The imprisonment of the Treasurer and 27 other members of the Union in Holloway has inspired the friends of Woman Suffrage to put forward heroic efforts during the Self-Denial week for raising a great Campaign Fund. Undaunted by the bitter conditions of the weather, women have undertaken effective work in the streets, some collecting in boxes, some selling flowers, some acting as pavement artists; others have sent cheques to the Treasurer, and others have promised to contribute so much a week during Mrs. Lawrence's imprisonment. In this way a large Campaign Fund is being collected, the total of which will provide a splendid war chest for the fight against the illiberalism of the Liberal Government.

The Released Prisoners.

On Saturday last the three prisoners, Mrs. Clarke, Miss Dallas, and Miss Douglas Smith, who have served a month's imprisonment for their attempt to see the Prime Minister at Downing Street, were released from Holloway. They were met by a crowd at the prison gates, and were marched in procession to the Inns of Court Hotel, where a further rousing welcome was given them at a complimentary breakfast, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, who presided, saying these prisoners were her especial favourites, because when called upon they had not hesitated a moment, but had gone straight off to do their duty.

Public Opinion in Glasgow.

The crushing defeat which the Liberal Government have suffered at Glasgow should convince them that in resisting the claims of women to their enfranchisement, and in imprisoning as ordinary criminals those who refuse to be denied their rights, they are alienating the people of the country. Our special cartoon, "Judgment in a higher Court," illustrates very happily the situation.

Educational Work.

During the past week several great meetings have been held; apart from the campaign which Mrs. Pankhurst has been carrying on at the bye-elections and the meetings in other parts of the country, an eager crowd gathered together in the St. James's Hall on Thursday in last week, and expressed their appreciation by promising their assistance to the work and finances of the Union. At the Queen's Hall on Monday, though London was under snow, an audience of 500 people listened to speeches by Miss Pankhurst, Mrs. Clarke, Miss Dallas, Miss Douglas Smith, and Mr. Pethick Lawrence, and many additional recruits were added to the Union.

Special Features.

Among the special features of this issue are the account of the trial at Bow Street, in which is contained a verbatim report of the speech by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Sylvia Pankhurst's History of the Suffrage, Mr. Pethick Lawrence's article on the Legislative Inferiority of Women, and Miss Christabel Pankhurst's Analysis of the Present Political Situation. For our issue next week we have a special article by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence entitled "Why I am in Prison."

"VOTES FOR WOMEN" WEEK.

March 12 to March 19, 1909.

The paper *VOTES FOR WOMEN* has always been near to the heart of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, and in her letter, which will be found on page 405 of this issue, she makes a special appeal for it to the members and friends of the Union. No better way can be found of carrying out her wish than in taking part in the campaign of the special *VOTES FOR WOMEN* week, which is being arranged for March 12 to March 19.

The value of *VOTES FOR WOMEN* to the organisation is now so well recognised that it is not necessary to dwell upon it. Where the leaders of the organisation can only be in one place at once, and where their voices cannot reach more than to one audience at a time, their written words are able to go all over the country simultaneously, and to carry the message of their hearts to women everywhere.

It is the boast of the Women's Social and Political Union that it is only necessary for the public to understand the facts for them to become converted, not merely to a general approval of Woman Suffrage, but to the actual methods and tactics adopted by the Suffragettes. In order to spread the true facts about the movement, no means can be found more suitable than by the circulation of *VOTES FOR WOMEN*, which serves both to make fresh converts, and to bind all parts of the Union together.

Making Fresh Converts.

Many of the members and subscribers who are now heart and soul with the members of the Women's Social and Political Union have often said that their first connection with it came through the paper. Buying by chance a copy in the street, or picking it up casually from the table of a friend, they found themselves interested; they learned for the first time that the doings of the Union were not as had been represented to them in the public press; they became closer students, and ultimately threw in their whole lot with the cause.

For those who are already connected with the Union, *VOTES FOR WOMEN* serves a different purpose—it keeps them posted up with all the news that is being done, and informs them as to the programme which is being carried out for the future. While a public meeting, however splendid, has a tendency to begin and end with itself, and while the purchase of a pamphlet does not necessarily lead to the purchase of further literature, one issue of *VOTES FOR WOMEN* is the forerunner of the next, and the circulation keeping pace with the growing interest unites readers more and more closely to the Movement.

During the week March 12 to 19, a special opportunity will be provided for rendering the paper more effective. During the sixteen months in which the paper has been running, a monthly circulation of 2,000 copies of a 12-paged issue has been converted into the weekly circulation of 16,000 copies of a 24-paged issue. This means a propaganda 70 times more extensive than was originally the case, but there is no reason why the increase should stop there; we want to see the circulation converted into 25,000, 50,000, 100,000, and even more, and each increase will mean a stronger and a stronger hold on the intelligence of the women of the country.

As to how all this is to be done, readers are invited to think out a number of schemes, to put some of them into operation, and to write to headquarters making suggestions. Various plans are already on foot. In the first place, every member and friend of the Union will receive in the course of a few days a packet of special subscription forms. Each one of these forms is an order to a newsagent to supply a copy regularly, and it is hoped that everyone of the members will be able to get at least one additional subscriber to the paper, and that some of them will be able to get many more. Any readers who do not receive these forms are invited to apply for them to headquarters, and they will then be sent on application.

In London and in the various local offices in the provinces special schemes are being organised to take effect during *VOTES FOR WOMEN* week. Readers are invited to get into touch with

their centre, and to co-operate with the organisers in their work. In particular, there must be a record sale in the streets of the two numbers published March 12 and 19. In London the paper cart will go out every day to supply sellers at various points. Women should also take papers with them to various meetings in their district, whether they are of a political or social character, and sell to those going into the meeting and coming out. Then various schemes of advertisement will be undertaken. In London a great many women will be wanted to assist in this way. There will be pavement chalking, and there will be a special "Letter" advertisement, particulars of which can be obtained from headquarters. Also, there is being undertaken a special scheme of circularisation to bring the paper under the notice of women who are known to be interested in politics throughout this country and abroad. This will require the services of a number of women who are prepared to undertake the work of addressing envelopes. Mrs. Drummond is in charge of the London work in connection with *VOTES FOR WOMEN* week, and other local organisers are superintending the work in the various centres.

Those who cannot get into touch with any special organisations can still take part in the work by ordering an extra number of copies, and selling them or distributing them to their friends; in particular it is suggested to them that they should organise a street sale. Others, again, may be able to exhibit posters on their gates; these will be sent to them on application free of charge for this purpose.

Among other schemes which are being undertaken is advertisement by flags. Readers are invited to obtain permission from shops and houses to hang out a "*VOTES FOR WOMEN*" flag from an upper window. They should then apply for a flag to Mrs. Drummond, who will have it sent for the purpose. It will be about the size of the ordinary tricolour. A specially valuable advertisement is obtained where a banner can be stretched right across the street; for this purpose consent must be obtained from the houses on both sides of the road; suitable banners will be supplied by Mrs. Drummond. In both these cases information is required as soon as possible, so that the necessary number of flags and banners should be put on order.

One member, who is an artist, is doing enlargements on the pavement of the cartoons appearing in *VOTES FOR WOMEN*, while another member stands by, selling copies of the paper.

Miss McKenzie, of 16, Palace Gardens Terrace, who suggested to us the scheme of a *VOTES FOR WOMEN* week, is purchasing 100 copies herself, and placing them judiciously among her friends. Many of our readers can follow her example, if they cannot take part in any other way. She also makes several other suggestions, many of which are being carried out.

The Advertisements in the Paper.

On the advertising side friends can be of special assistance. It is important, in the first place, to render the paper a good advertising medium by giving a large part of their custom to the firms that advertise in the paper. Then they can help *VOTES FOR WOMEN* by drawing the attention of houses with which they deal to the advertisement side of the paper, delivering at the same time a special advertisement circular, which we shall be happy to supply to them, and after doing so sending information to the Advertisement Department of *VOTES FOR WOMEN* of what they have done. A definite application will then be made for an advertisement, and it is hoped that a permanent result will follow.

In conclusion we wish to impress upon our readers three things; first, all these schemes will cost money, and something like £150 will be required altogether. We hope we shall be able to raise this sum so that all these schemes may be set on foot. In the second place, a great many extra copies of the paper will have to be printed. Readers are invited to look ahead in the matter, and order their papers as early as possible, in order that the publishing office may not run out of copies, as was the case during the current week. In the third place, these schemes will require a very great deal of work, and everyone who is able to help in any way is invited to send in her name, either to Mrs. Drummond, or to the local organiser in her part of the country.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Self-Denial Week.

The special Self-Denial Week is still in progress, and it is hoped that every member and friend of the Union will put in good final days, so that the total sum may be as large as possible. Collecting cards should be sent in before the 13th, so that the total may be included in the result which will be declared at the Queen's Hall meeting on Tuesday, March 23.

"Votes for Women" Week.

Arrangements are in active progress for the special week, March 12-19, to be devoted to the extension of the circulation of this paper, to which Mrs. Pethick Lawrence devotes her letter on page 405. A number of schemes are being taken in hand, particulars of which will be found on page 396.

At Homes and Meetings.

Mrs. Pankhurst and Miss Christabel Pankhurst will speak at the At Home which will be held in the Queen's Hall from 3 to 5 next Monday, and Miss Pankhurst at the At Home in the evening, from 8 to 10, in the St. James's Hall, on Thursday. Other At Homes are held in various parts of the country, particulars of which will be found on pages 410-412. All those interested in the Movement are invited to attend. Among the special meetings held during the week is one at the Music Hall, Aberdeen, this evening, when the speaker is Mrs. Pankhurst.

Meeting in March in the Queen's Hall.

Tickets are now on sale for the great meeting in the Queen's Hall on Tuesday evening, March 23, by which time the annual report will be in the hands of subscribers, and the total result of the Self-Denial Week will be announced. Mrs. Pankhurst will be in the chair, and the other speakers will be Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Mr. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Mary Gawthorpe. Tickets, price 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d. can be obtained of the Ticket Secretary, N.W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

Release of Prisoners.

On the following morning, March 24, 26 out of the 28 women sentenced to prison last week will be released. Arrangements are being made for a special procession from the gates, and in place of the usual breakfast, a dinner will be given at the Inns of Court Hotel, at 7.30 p.m. Tickets for this dinner, 2s. 6d. each, are already on sale, and as the number of seats is limited application should be made at once. It is particularly requested that the colours of the Union should be worn both in the procession and in the evening at the dinner.

A Riding Corps.

A corps of mounted women is being formed in connection with the Women's Social and Political Union, and a special uniform is being arranged. Will any women who are willing to take part communicate with Mrs. Drummond (see London Report, page 410).

The Physical Force Fallacy.

We are glad to be able to inform our readers that the excellent articles by Laurence Housman in VOTES FOR WOMEN, which have attracted so much interest, have been republished as a pamphlet, and can be obtained of the Woman's Press, price 1d.

From the Woman's Press can also be obtained a new flag brooch in the colours price 1s. each.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS—(Continued.)

March.				
Sun. 7	Kingsland, Congregational Church Hall	..	3 p.m.	
Mon. 8	Chelsea Pal., Court Theatre, South Kensington Station	Open-air Collections	11 a.m.—9 p.m.	
	London, At Home, Queen's Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, F. W. Pethick Lawrence, Esq.	3-5 p.m.	
	Weston-super-Mare, North Street Hall, women only	Miss Annie Kenney, Miss Vera Wentworth	5.30 p.m.	
	Bristol, At Home, Victoria Rooms	Miss G. Brackenbury	3.30 p.m.	
	Ilford, Drawing-room meeting, 21, Coventry Road	..	7.30 p.m.	
	Sheffield, Old Boys' Association, Stoney Middleton	Miss C. Marsh	7.30 p.m.	
	Balsall Institute	Miss Gladice Keevil	8 p.m.	
	Weston-super-Mare, Town Hall	Miss Annie Kenney, Miss Vera Wentworth	8 p.m.	
	Manchester, Lecture, Onward Buildings	Mrs. Duncan	8 p.m.	
	Chelsea, 4, Trafalgar Studios, Debate	Miss Winifred Mayo, Beginners' class	8.45 p.m.	
	Coventry, Factory Gate mtg.	Miss Gladice Keevil		
	Manchester, Brunswick St. Presbyterian Church	Miss Williamson		
Tues. 9	Chelsea Pal., Court Theatre, South Kensington Station	Open-air Collections	11 a.m.—9 p.m.	
	Liverpool, At Home, 48, Mount Pleasant	Miss Mary Phillips	3-5 & 8-10 p.m.	
	Birmingham, At Home, Midland Hotel	Miss Gladice Keevil and others	3.30 p.m.	
	Birmingham, At Home, Priory Rooms, Old Square	Miss Gladice Keevil and others	7.30 p.m.	
	Accrington	Miss Williamson	8 p.m.	
	Bradford, Workers' meeting, 61, Manningham Lane	Miss Marsh	8 p.m.	
	Bristol, At Home	Miss Brackenbury		
Wed. 10	Chelsea Pal., Court Theatre, S. Kensington Station	Open-air Collections	11 a.m.—9 p.m.	
	Barnet Green, Drawing-room meeting	Lady Isabel Margeeson	3 p.m.	
	Wolverhampton, At Home, St. Peter's Institute	Miss Hazel	7.30 p.m.	
	Preston, 48, Glover's Court	Miss Mabel Capper	7.30 p.m.	
	Rochdale, 84, Yorkshire St.	Members' Meeting	7.30 p.m.	
	Aberdeen, 414, Union Street	Miss Flatman, Miss McRobbie	8 p.m.	
	Chelsea, 93, Oakley Street	Chelsea W.S.P.U.	8.30 p.m.	
	West Bromwich, Lyng Temperance Association	Dr. Helena Jones		
	Kensington, At Home	..		
	Totnes, Open-air meeting	Miss Brackenbury		
	Paignton	Miss Marsh		
	Leeds, Arts Club			
Thur. 11	Chelsea Pal., Court Theatre, S. Kensington Station	Open-air Collections	11 a.m.—9 p.m.	
	Birmingham, Factory mtg.	Miss Gladice Keevil	1.25 p.m.	
	Edinburgh, Reception, Soc. of Arts Hall, 117, George St.	Miss Macaulay and others	3.30 p.m.	
	Palgnton, Masonic Hall		4-6 p.m.	
	London, At Home, St. James' Hall, St. Portland Street	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	8 p.m.	
	Birmingham, Ruskin Hall, Aston	Miss Gladice Keevil	8 p.m.	
	Edinburgh, At Home, Marshall Street Hall	Miss Macaulay and others	8 p.m.	
	Chorlton-cum-Hardy	Miss Mary Gawthorpe	8 p.m.	
	Glasgow, At Home, 141, Bath Street	Miss Conolan and others	8 p.m.	
	Wood Green, Unity Hall	Bowes Park W.S.P.U.		
Fri. 12	Chelsea Pal., Court Theatre, S. Kensington Station	Open-air Collections	11 a.m.—9 p.m.	
	Aberdeen, Speakers' Class, 414, Union Street	Miss Flatman	8 p.m.	
	Bristol, Assembly Rooms, Stokes Croft	Miss Annie Kenney	8 p.m.	
	Plymouth, Treville St. Hall	Miss Brackenbury and others	8 p.m.	
	Manchester, At Home, Onward Buildings	Miss Mary Gawthorpe, Miss Mary Phillips	8-10 p.m.	
	Penzance, Central Hall	Miss Annie Kenney, Miss Elsie Howey		
	Crouch End, "Ye China Cup," Park Road	Hornsey W.S.P.U.		
	Coventry, Factory Gate mtg.	Miss Gladice Keevil		
	Manchester, Central Secondary School, Debating Soc.	Miss Williamson		
	Leeds	Mrs. Clarke and others		
Sat. 13	Glasgow, At Home, Charing Cross Hall	Miss Conolan and others	3 p.m.	
	Southport, At Home	Miss Mary Gawthorpe	3-5 p.m.	
	Redditch, Public Hall	Miss Gladice Keevil	8 p.m.	
	Kensington, The Mall Hall, At Home	Miss Evelyn Sharp	8 p.m.	
	Aldburgh, Drawing-room meeting, Dr. Garrett Anderson's	Mrs. Pankhurst		
	Liverpool			
	Rochdale			
	Manchester			
	Preston	Meeting Parades		

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS.

March.				
Fri. 5	Chelsea Pal., Court Theatre, South Kensington Station	Open-air Collections	11 a.m.—9 p.m.	
	Coventry, Factory Gates mtg.	Miss Gladice Keevil	1 p.m.	
	Manchester, At Home, 143, Barlow Moor Road, W. Didsbury	Miss Mary Gawthorpe	3-5 p.m.	
	Plymouth, Treville St. Hall	Miss Howey and others	8 p.m.	
	Bristol, Assembly Rooms, Stokes Croft	..	8 p.m.	
	Manchester, At Home, Onward Buildings, Deansgate	Miss Mary Gawthorpe, Miss M. Phillips	8 p.m.	
	Aberdeen, Music Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Flatman, Miss Brackenbury	8 p.m.	
	Bridgwater, Town Hall	Miss A. Kenney, Miss Vera Wentworth, Miss G. Brackenbury	8 p.m.	
	St. Andrew's University	Miss Conolan		
Sat. 6	Chelsea Pal., Court Theatre, South Kensington Station	Open-air Collections	11 a.m.—9 p.m.	
	Glasgow, At Home, Charing Cross Hall	Dr. Marion Gilchrist	3 p.m.	
	Southport, At Home	Miss Mary Phillips	3-5 p.m.	
	Leeds, Town Hall Square	Miss Marsh and others	7.30 p.m.	
	Cambridge, Girton College	Miss Gladice Keevil	8 p.m.	
	Kensington, Debate	Mrs. Brownlow, Miss B. Phillips		
	Walton-on-the-Hill, Drawing-room mtg., Dean's House	Miss Hannah Lightman		
	Bath	Miss Annie Kenney, Miss G. Brackenbury		

IMPORTANT FUTURE EVENTS.

March			
12-19	VOTES FOR WOMEN Week		
23	London, Queen's Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss C. Pankhurst, Miss Mary Gawthorpe, F. W. Pethick Lawrence, Esq.	8 p.m.
		Release of Prisoners	8 a.m.
24	Holloway		
24	London, Inns of Court Hotel	Dinner to welcome released prisoners. Tickets 2s. 6d.	7.30 p.m.
24	Manchester, Free Trade Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss M. Gawthorpe	
26	Nottingham, Mechanics' Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst	
30	London, Carlton Hall	Deputation to the House of Commons	3 p.m.
April 29	London, Albert Hall	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence	
My 13-26	Prince's Skating Rink	Exhibition and Sale of Work	

HISTORY OF THE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT.

By SYLVIA PANKHURST. XLVI.—Mr. Dickinson's First Bill in 1907.

We have seen that at the opening of Parliament, 1907, fifty-five members and sympathisers of the Women's Social and Political Union had willingly gone to prison in order to obtain for women the Parliamentary vote.

Five of the older suffragists—Mrs. Eva M'Laren, Lady Knightley of Fawsley, Miss I. O. Ford, Mrs. Henry Fawcett, and Mrs. Cooper—now wrote to the Prime Minister, asking him to move in the House of Commons that they might be allowed to plead the cause of women's suffrage at the Bar of the House. In spite of the fact that in 1688 Anne Fitzharris (widow of Edward Fitzharris, who was executed for treason in 1681) had been allowed to speak at the Bar on behalf of herself and her children, and that Mrs. Clarke, mistress of the Duke of York, had been summoned there to give evidence in regard to the charges of corruption brought against the Duke, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman refused to allow the suffragists to plead at the Bar, on the ground that there was no precedent for women appearing there in support of a petition.

Anti-suffragist Opposition.

A Women's Suffrage Bill had, as we know, been given a first place in the ballot for Private Members' Bills at the beginning of the Session. Mr. Dickinson, who had secured the place, did not choose the first or second Friday, as might have been expected, but put down his Bill for second reading on March 5. A band of anti-woman suffragist Liberals were now actively working against the Bill, and on the day of the debate Mr. (now Sir) Samuel Evans presented a petition, signed by 21,000 women, against the suffrage. Though this was the largest anti-suffragist petition ever presented, it was, of course, quite insignificant as compared with the great petitions and memorials in support of the suffrage with which Parliament has been inundated, and though the anti-suffragists tried to make much capital out of it, it was singularly poor and ineffective as compared with the sacrifices made by the ninety-nine women who had suffered an aggregate of 194 weeks' imprisonment during the previous year, and with the heroic action of the 54 women and one man who, for the sake of women's enfranchisement, had so recently gone to gaol.

Knowing that their opposition to the cause of votes for women would render them unpopular, many of the anti-suffragists, especially among the Liberals, now pretended that they objected to Mr. Dickinson's Bill because they did not consider it democratic, and believed that it would only give the vote to well-off women, and would exclude those who had to work for their living. So emphatically was this statement made, that it was difficult to convince many people that some new Bill, with the object of establishing a fancy franchise, had not been brought in. Yet the fact was that Mr. Dickinson's Bill differed but slightly in wording from that which had originally passed its second reading in 1870, and had so often since then been debated in the House of Commons.

The text of Mr. Dickinson's Bill was as follows:—

(1) In all Acts relating to the qualification and registration of voters or persons entitled to vote in the election of members of Parliament, wherever words occur which import the masculine gender, the same shall be held to include women for all purposes connected with and having reference to the right to be registered as voters and to vote in such election.

(2) A woman shall not be disqualified by reason of marriage from being so registered and voting notwithstanding the provisions of any law or custom to the contrary.

When asked by the secretary of the local Suffrage Society, in his constituency of Dunfermline, whether he would support women's suffrage in the forthcoming debate, Sir Henry Camp-

bell-Bannerman had written in reply, "I will, with much pleasure, give my support to Mr. Dickinson's Bill when it comes before the House of Commons." When the Bill came on the Prime Minister spoke early in the discussion, but instead of giving it the support he had promised, he threw cold water upon it, saying:—"I am not very warmly enamoured of it. . . . It will enfranchise a small minority of well-to-do single women."

Where the Prime Minister had led, the rank and file anti-suffragist Liberal M.P.'s followed. Their arguments were well met by Mr. Phillip Snowden, who, as a Labour representative, might certainly have been supposed to have been at least as anxious as the opponents to secure fair and adequate representation for the working class. Mr. Snowden told the House that some two or three years before he had supervised a census which was taken in about fifty different parts of the country, with the object of ascertaining what proportion of the women who would be enfranchised by a measure similar to that now under discussion would belong to the working class. For the purposes of this census, women who worked for wages, who were domestically employed, and who were supported by the wages of wage-earning children, were classed as "working women." The municipal registers examined in the course of this inquiry contained 372,000 names, and the total number of women voters upon them was 59,000, of whom 82.4 per cent. were working women. These figures, conclusive though they appear to the unprejudiced mind, produced absolutely no impression upon the so-called adult suffragists in the House of Commons, and the debate which had begun at 12 o'clock, dragged wearily on until nearly five. Two attempts were now made to move the closure, but the Speaker refused to accept it, and at five o'clock the debate stood adjourned, Mr. Rees, the Liberal Member for Montgomery Burghs, having talked the measure out.

Withdrawal of the Bill.

It was now urged by both Suffragettes and Suffragists that the Government should give another day for the discussion of the Bill, but this was refused, and when, soon afterwards, Sir Charles McLaren obtained a place for a Women's Suffrage resolution on March 27, in spite of protests from the Women's Social and Political Union, who realised that the passage of a resolution meant merely the recording of a pious opinion that could have no practical outcome, Mr. Dickinson withdrew his Bill.

No sooner had Mr. Dickinson's Bill been withdrawn and Sir Charles McLaren's resolution set down in its stead than Mr. (now Sir) Maurice Levy introduced an Adult Suffrage Bill. According to the rules of the House of Commons a resolution could not be proceeded with if a Bill dealing with the same subject was also before the House, and Sir Charles McLaren's resolution was therefore rendered out of order. Mr. Levy's action was acknowledged to be an unjustifiable abuse of the rules of procedure, but he was deaf to all appeals to withdraw his Bill, and openly exulted in what he had done. Members on all sides of the House objected strongly to his action, for it was pointed out that members might constantly be deprived of the rights intended to be secured to them by the ballot if all those who might happen to dislike any given subject should take to bringing in dummy Bills to prevent its being discussed. A resolution embodying this point of view was agreed to on the adjournment of the House for the Easter recess. The general feeling was that Mr. Levy had offended against the recognised traditional etiquette of Parliament. It must, however, be remembered that, as the *Standard* put it, "if the Government had chosen to exercise pressure Mr. Levy would have proved complacent." Realising this, and realising, too, that the Government, with practically all the time of Parliament at its disposal, could easily have given a day for the discussion of Women's Suffrage had it wished to do so, the Women's Social and Political Union were now arranging to hold another Women's Parliament, and many more of its members were making up their minds to go to prison in order that the citizenship of women might be won.

(To be continued.)

ELEMENTS OF THE WOMAN SUFFRAGE DEMAND.

By F. W. Pethick Lawrence.—Chapter II.—Where the Law is Unjust to Women.

I have promised in the present chapter to deal with the inferior position in which women are placed by the law of the land, which arises from their voteless condition, and I shall show that in some of the most important things of a woman's life the law differentiates between men and women to the disadvantage of the latter. Before I come to this, however, it is well to point out that this is not the sole—perhaps not even the chief—reason why women wish to have a voice in the making of the laws. Quite apart from differential treatment between men and women, every law which is carried through the House of Commons affects in some way the lives of women—whether it be a law relating to housing, or to education, or to employment, or to provision for old age, or to the collection and expenditure of the national revenue.

Coming now to the more restricted field of differential legislation between men and women, it will be found that the existing laws of the country affect the lives of women at every point. As a single woman she is treated differently from the single man. If her parents are wealthy and die intestate, she finds her claims to landed property postponed to those of her male relatives. If she is a working woman, she finds that certain occupations are legally closed to her, and that others are hedged about with restrictions. There is not space here to deal at length with the factory laws. Though many of them are protective in their character, many of them are also detrimental to the chances of women in the labour market.

As Wife and Mother.

It is, however, when she becomes a wife and mother that the principal inequalities of the law come into her life. Those who oppose the granting of the franchise to women are the loudest in their claims that the place of women is in the home, yet it is precisely in the home that the rights of the man are by law entirely superior to those of the woman. The husband has the power to select where the home shall be, and how it shall be conducted. In the eyes of the law he is the sole parent of the child so long as he is alive, and the decision as to the child's upbringing rests entirely with him. Whether the husband be good or bad, the wife is by law entirely subservient to him, and in the event of either party to the marriage being guilty of definite immorality, there is a total difference in the treatment accorded to husband and wife. These are the general principles which underlie the position of the married woman. A few concrete illustrations will make this more clear.

When a man and woman of the working class marry, they have probably up to that time both been earning an independent livelihood. After marriage it is usual, except in certain cases, for there to be a division of labour—the husband undertakes the external work, and the earning of money wages, and the woman undertakes the internal economy of the home, and the care of the children. The husband does not pay the wife wages for her share of the work, but he is supposed to hand over a large part of the money wages which he earns to her for the housekeeping; but, although this is actually the case with the bulk of good husbands, the law does not insist upon this position. The wife has no legal right to any share of the husband's income except in the case of actual desertion, and if while continuing to live with her he refuses to pay to her a single penny of his wages, she cannot obtain such payment except by breaking up her home, and going into the workhouse; short of this she and her children can starve, and yet she cannot claim the protection of the law to obtain maintenance from her husband.

Not only so, but even where the husband has paid over to his wife a certain sum of money for housekeeping purposes, and the house has been well kept, and the wife has saved a small sum out of the money, a recent decision in the Law Courts has pronounced that this money is still the property of the husband, and cannot be claimed by the wife.

Prior to the passing of the Married Woman's Property Acts the position was still worse, because the husband could then claim, in addition to his own money, all the money which the wife brought to him as her separate property, or even earned

by the exertions of her own labour. These additional injustices were abolished by the Married Woman's Property Acts, carried in 1870 and 1883, largely as a result of the last great franchise agitation.

A brief reference is necessary here to the liability of the husband for his wife's debts incurred by her while living with him for necessities ordered at tradesmen's houses, a liability which is not shared by a rich wife for the purchases of her husband. Is not this, it is frequently asked, a proof of how partial the law is to women? The position, however, is not what is generally supposed. The law is not a protection for the wife but for the creditor, who would otherwise be frequently defrauded by collusion between husband and wife. The creditor is entitled to assume (so the law says) that the wife, in ordering goods, is doing so as the agent of her husband. The proof that no special protection for the wife is intended lies in the fact that the husband can evade all responsibility in the matter by announcing beforehand his intention of doing so to all tradesmen in the neighbourhood.

There is a common idea that in the upbringing of the children the father has a right to determine that of the sons and the mother that of the daughters. This idea prevails because it is a practice sometimes agreed upon beforehand by persons of different religious opinions in contracting marriage, but the law does not support any such views. The mother has no more right by law to decide upon the education of her daughters than she has of her sons. If it is a case of vaccination, with regard to which the parent has the right to claim exemption, magistrates have definitely refused to recognise the mother as a parent where the father is still alive. In the Education Bills brought in by the present Liberal Government, there have been clauses granting to the parent the power to decide upon the kind of religion which the children shall be taught. In this case also, whether the child be son or daughter, the father, if he be alive, is the sole person to be consulted.

At common law the father is entitled against the mother to the custody of the children, and though the Guardianship of Infants Act (1886) modifies this decision in certain cases, nevertheless, the father, so long as he lives and is not guilty of misconduct, remains *prima facie* the guardian of his children to the exclusion of the mother. Even after his death she may find her wishes for the future of her children subject to those of a guardian appointed in her husband's will. Further than this, while the widower is by the Act of 1907 admitted to contract a legal marriage with his deceased wife's sister with a view to taking better care of his children, no similar opportunity is given to the widow who wishes to find a father to her children in her deceased husband's brother.

If a man dies intestate his wife is only entitled to a portion of his estate, while if she dies her husband holds her lands for life and has a right to the whole of her personal property.

The divorce laws, as is well known, are unequal between man and woman, for whereas the law grants divorce to a man for the simple misconduct of his wife, a similar behaviour by the husband does not free the woman from the marriage tie. She can only obtain divorce by proving, in addition, cruelty or desertion; and by a recent decision of the Court, where the woman has been separated from her husband owing to his atrocious behaviour, this separation will not justify her in claiming desertion.

Before turning to the prospect for the future it may be remarked that women desire to alter the law in several special cases where they affect women solely. Among these is the question of the age of consent, which at present stands at fourteen years, and should certainly be raised. There are also the laws relating to concealment of birth and infanticide by mothers directly after birth, which are in need of radical alteration.

Prospect for the Future.

Inferior as is the position of women to-day before the law, it is liable to become very much worse if certain proposals which are freely talked about by Cabinet Ministers at the present time are translated into active legislative measures. Mr. John Burns has said on several occasions—and other Cabinet Ministers have supported his remarks—that it is proposed in the near future to introduce legislation to restrict the labour of women, and particularly that of married women. These proposals, if carried into effect, will strike a direct blow at the economic independence of women, and, while there is no suggestion of providing at the same time any additional rights of maintenance of the wife at the hands of her husband, either for herself or for her children, will seriously cripple her in her duties as mother and housewife.

EXTRACTS FROM THE PRESS.

The "MANCHESTER GUARDIAN," Saturday, Feb. 27. The Suffragists and the Law.

Twenty-nine Suffragists went to gaol on Thursday and a number more yesterday, every one a woman of high character and courage. It is not a pleasant spectacle, and, strongly as we hold that the procedure adopted by the militants is a wrong and mistaken one, the same terms may be applied with at least equal justice to the stupid and futile machinery of repression.

The "MANCHESTER GUARDIAN," March 1. The Public Meetings Act.

The framers and the supporters of the Act, of course, meant it for the women Suffragists. The militant women have not yet come under it, and doubtless when they do they will be the last persons to be terrified. If, however, quite another kind of bird is taken from the one intended, that is one of the inevitable results of spreading a net wide enough for all. That the Act is unnecessary for the safeguarding of free speech under normal conditions everybody who is familiar with public meetings is fully aware and the lively scenes during some of the Scottish elections now in progress have testified. What is wanted at a public meeting is a capable chairman and a ready speaker; where these are the menace of the law is superfluous, and where these are not it is a nice question whether there ought to be a public meeting. The Public Meetings Act will, we suppose, succeed, before it falls into oblivion or is repealed, in sending a few women to gaol; but it will be left to rust by those who understand the business of public discussion, and after the women have received the vote only an occasional wound inflicted by a specially heated controversialist will serve to remind us of the futility of cumbering the Statute-book with general legislation clumsily directed against a particular passing nuisance.

The "HAWICK NEWS," Feb. The Suffragette Invasion.

A novelty of the bye-election is the presence of representatives of the National Women's Social and Political Union and of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. The ladies representing the first-named Union are, however, by far the most active in their efforts to preach

"Votes for Women." Their organiser, Miss New, has undoubtedly popularised the cry of "Votes for Women." A circular addressed to the "people of Hawick Burghs" by the National Women's Social and Political Union says:—"Many Liberals dislike the idea of voting Tory, but to do that at a bye-election will not put a Tory Government into office; on the contrary, it is the one way which earnest and sincere Liberals can take of setting their leaders right and preventing those leaders from bringing the Liberal party to its downfall." This astounding exposition of political morality may well cause the male electors to ponder seriously the "Votes for Women" campaign.

QUESTIONS IN THE HOUSE.

The Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, in the House of Commons on Wednesday, speaking on the treatment of cattle drivers and Suffragists, said:—"Let the House compare the methods by which cattle drivers are dealt with in Ireland and the methods by which Suffragists are dealt with in this country. I am not going to compare those ardent political ladies with cattle drivers either one way or the other, but it is absolutely certain that when we have to be protected from their attentions—"

Mr. J. Macveagh (N., Down): They'll be here in a minute. (Laughter.)

Mr. Balfour: We are not at all content to bind them over to keep the peace.

A Member: But you do.

Mr. Balfour: They are brought before a single magistrate, tried without a jury, and fined, and if they do not pay the fine, as I understand the matter, they go to prison.

Mr. Asquith (Prime Minister): They are bound over to keep the peace in the same way.

Mr. Balfour: There may have been cases of binding over, but undoubtedly there have been cases in which they have been fined. And if they don't pay the fines they go to prison, not as untried prisoners, but as ordinary prisoners.

Mr. Dillon: The greater shame. We have protested against that.

Mr. Balfour: I am not in the least complaining of the action the Home Office, the police, or the Government have taken in regard to this particular class of offenders—that is quite out of my province. But it is ludicrous to tell me that if that is the proper way to deal with Suffragettes, the proper way to deal with cattle drivers is simply to ask them to be bound over to be of good behaviour; and if they refuse, to make them first-class misdemeanants. (Opposition cheers.) You cannot make any comparison between the two. (Renewed cheers.)

"DAILY NEWS," March 3.

A further attempt to secure for the Suffragettes imprisonment in the first division is unlikely to meet with success. The Home Secretary does not deny that the prerogative of the Crown is capable of wide extension, but it has been the invariable custom to limit the exercise of these powers to cases of inadvertent miscarriage of justice.



[By the Courtesy of the "Daily Mirror."]
"One of the many schemes devised by the members of the Women's Social and Political Union during their Self-Denial Week is that of selling flowers in the streets. The picture, taken on Saturday, the first day of the Self-Denial Week, shows some Suffragettes trading in Ludgate-circus. Attention may be drawn to the advertisement displayed on the omnibus."—Daily Mirror, March 1.

LADIES IN THE ARMY.

Major A. Menzies dwelt at the annual meeting of the Royal United Service Institution, Whitehall, yesterday upon a proposed alteration of the rules of membership, so as to include Territorial officers. His attention had been drawn to a corps of mounted female nurses. They had been attached, or had attached themselves, to the Yeomanry, which was part of the Territorial Force. He was well aware that this corps was not officially recognised, but he thought he might fairly say it had been winked at. (Loud laughter.) It was the best expres-

sion he could think of at the moment. It was quite possible that within the next twelve months those ladies, who already wore a uniform, with badges of rank, would find their way into the Army List and be officially recognised. He took it that any lady holding a commission, and who was in the Army List, would be eligible for election to that institution. The Council should consider whether this could not be guarded against.

Admiral of the Fleet Lord Walter Kerr, who presided, stated that ladies were not eligible to become members.—Daily Telegraph, March 3.

THE SEXES IN JUDAISM.

We must once and for all abandon the unhappy standpoint which regarded the religious duties of the man as greater than those of the woman. There is only one sort of religion, and that knows no difference between the sexes. To be at one with the God upon whom we depend, to fix one's soul on God, the hallowing of Sabbaths and Festivals, the cultivation of home worship, joy in religious teaching in the house of God, must be equally precious and dear to men and women. I would not for a moment object to women actively participating in the government of the community; and if ever that desirable consummation, the lay sermon, is introduced in our midst, I would have no objection to an earnest and talented woman lecturing in the course of the service.—Rabbi Dr. J. Ziegler in the "Allgemeine Zeitung des Judentums," Berlin.

THE WOMAN'S EXHIBITION.

Prince's Skating Rink, May 13-26, 1909.

"Help us to raise a great Campaign Fund with which to develop our operations all over the country. And let your promise of help be forthcoming at once, so that we may set about the organisation without delay."

These words, written by Mrs. Pankhurst and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence on the dainty purple, green, and white Promise Card issued by the Women's Social and Political Union, we wish to emphasise this week. Now that one of the writers is undergoing the very severe sentence of two months' imprisonment in Holloway for her share in the deputation of February 24, all "loyal hearts and true" will be up and doing with added fervour in the cause of women's political enfranchisement.

This week we ask workers and friends to let the Exhibition Secretary know what they are prepared to do. A bird in the hand—even if it is only a fat capon, is worth two, though they may be turkeys, in a hypothetical bush, and fat capons promised will considerably relieve the Exhibition Secretary's anxieties, more especially with regard to the Refreshment Stall.

The Refreshment Stall.

One of the Secretaries of this stall, a most valuable worker, Miss Una Dugdale, is also in prison for taking part in the deputation, and her co-worker, Mrs. Edwards, 63, Lancaster Gate, W., is on this account all the more anxious to receive promises of help and contributions for the stall. It must be remembered that a refreshment stall to last a fortnight requires a very large supply of provisions. Moreover, it is desirable that everything should be given, so that every penny of profit may go to the W.S.P.U.'s war chest. Another point to be remembered is that, provisions being of a perishable nature, it is necessary that those responsible for organising the stall should know on which day the various promises of contributions in kind will be fulfilled, so that they may arrange accordingly.

The Farm and Garden Produce Stall.

Mrs. Marshall, who is in charge of this stall, sends us the following letter:—

We should like through our paper to thank our friends for more kind offers of help. Lady Constance Lytton, the Hon. Lady Johnston, and Mrs. Hughes have kindly promised their patronage. Miss Edwards, Coaley Poultry Farm, Coaley, has promised six sittings of eggs from her noted poultry. Mr. H. J. Vaux, Rookery Poultry Farm, Dovercourt, promises a sitting of his special White Orpingtons. (Particulars may be had from the Hon. Sec., Farm and Garden Produce Stall, 4, Clements Inn.) The Misses Beck, Miss E. Le Lacheur, and Miss Parker have promised generous help. Miss Nora Musgrove promises 20 lbs. of butter; Miss Allan Liddle, clotted cream; Mrs. Diplock, tomatoes and asparagus; Mrs. Nicks offers a cheese and some poultry.

With regard to the competitions, prizes for the best table poultry, butter, eggs, and ducks will be required. A. E. W. Marshall, Esq., has promised to give those for the egg classes. Who will offer prizes for the others?

E. K. MARSHALL (Hon. Sec.).

The Y.H.B. Stall.

Our friends, the Y.H.B.'s, who have just welcomed back one of their number, Miss Irene Dallas, after a month's imprisonment in Holloway, have decided, in order to provide goods for their stall, to hold weekly working parties every Tuesday evening from 8 to 9.30. The Misses Polak (4, Alexandra Mansions, Chichele Road, Orildewood) have kindly undertaken to superintend these, which will take place at their home. The first will be next Tuesday, March 9. It is hoped that all Y.H.B.'s who can possibly do so will make a point of being present. Particulars may be had at the usual meeting at 4.30 on Saturday, in Alan's Tea Rooms, 263, Oxford Street, W., or from the Hon. Secretary, Miss M. Home, 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

Dolls and Toys.

The Newcastle stall will be almost entirely devoted to dolls of all sizes, sorts, and values. It is hoped that contributions of dolls will be sent by anyone and everyone who is gifted with the fancy and faculty of doll-dressing. Special stress is laid on the advisability of all the clothes being made to come on and off, except in the case of tiny dolls, wool-clothed dolls, etc.

Dolls for dressing will be supplied gratis by Mrs. Taylor, Chip-chase Castle, Wark-on-Tyne, who requests that particulars as to size and number may be sent her.

Children's Clothing.

Streatham members ask for measurements, patterns, etc., of children's clothes suitable for various ages. These may be sent to the Hon. Secretary, Streatham W.S.P.U., 60, Marryat Road, Wimbledon Common.

A Flower Stall.

The following letter comes from Miss Isabel Seymour, who is undertaking a Flower Stall, including potted plants, as well as cut flowers:—

I have been asked to organise the Flower Stall for the Exhibition, and I should like to make an appeal for help to our members, especially those living in the country. Cut flowers in quantities will be needed, and these will have to be most carefully selected and packed to be fit for sale; cuttings, small plants, and bulbs will also find a ready market. I would suggest the following cuttings as most suitable:—Niphetos, Marechal Niel, Turner's crimson rambler, bouvardias, hydrangeas, crotons, dracenas, clematis, ficus elastica, carnations, palms, ivys (variegated), heliotrope, fuchsias, geraniums, ferns of all sorts.

There will be a great deal of expense in connection with potting, mowing, and buying supplementary flowers from time to time. I should therefore be most thankful to receive any sums of money from those friends who, though they cannot send flowers, would like to help the stall. I write early, as gardens cannot be hurried, and many of our members will like to make special preparations. I shall be glad to have any suggestions with regard to this stall, and I hope all members interested or wishing to help will communicate with me at 4 Clements Inn.

Isabel Seymour.

Wanted!

The Exhibition Secretary asks us this week to make two special appeals; one, as we have already said, for promises, the other for suggestions and ideas. "Many women, many minds," and all suggestions for making individual stalls, or the Exhibition generally, a huge success, will be gladly welcomed. Letters should be addressed: To the Exhibition Secretary, N.W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

Contributions and Promises.

Already acknowledged:—Stalls	251
Money and goods to the amount of	£441 3 0
Miss Walton has promised goods to the value of	1 0 0
Miss L. Smith (W. of England)	1 0 0
Misses Heanley	2 0 0
Miss E. Moore	3 0 0
Miss Dines	2 0 0
Miss Neave	5 0 0
Miss Ross	1 1 0
Miss Lucas (W. of England)	1 1 0
Mrs. Crichton	1 1 0
Miss Peacock	5 0 0
Mrs. Bartels	1 0 0
Mrs. N. Baker	0 10 0
Mrs. Miller (Yorkshire)	2 0 0
Mrs. Benham	1 0 0
Mrs. Sherwin White	2 0 0
Mrs. Ramsbottom	0 10 0
Miss Gratton	2 0 0
Miss G. Farm	10 0 0
Mrs. Cobden Sichert has sent	1 1 0
Total	£483 7 0

TREASURER'S NOTE.

The Committee of the Women's Social and Political Union have done me the honour of accepting the suggestion made by my wife that I should act as Honorary Treasurer of the Union during her imprisonment. I am therefore asking that all money or promises for the Self-Denial Week, and also contributions for the Campaign Fund, should be sent to me at 87, Clements Inn, W.C.

It is impossible not to appreciate the splendid action of the members during the week. Thinking not of the terrible conditions of the weather, but of the women in prison, members have stood loyally to their posts. Street collections have been taken, flowers have been sold in every part of London and the provinces, pavement artists have been at work, and all the numerous arrangements of Self-Denial Week have been carried out with the utmost strenuousness and determination. It now only remains in the concluding days of Self-Denial Week, when it is hoped that better weather conditions will prevail, to put forward every effort to secure a splendid result, and to supplement this by well-filled collecting cards. Avenues of opportunity are opening up before the Union, which can only successfully be taken advantage of provided the war chest is well filled. The Liberal Government have shown that there is no royal road to the vote; the path has to be climbed by the dogged work of organisation as much as by the heroic work of militant opposition.

Following along the lines of last year, the subscription list is not given in the current number of VOTES FOR WOMEN, and the amount will be held over until the announcement is made in the Queen's Hall, on March 23, of the total sum collected for Self-Denial. That this sum may be so large as to strike terror into the hearts of the members of the Liberal Government is the devout wish of your pro tem. Treasurer,

F. W. Pethick Lawrence.

OUR POST BOX.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—I am a member of the Conservative and Unionist Association, and not of the W.S.P.U., but I think all women desiring the franchise should look on VOTES FOR WOMEN as their own particular organ. I take it in regularly through Smith, and send the copies to India and to friends when I have read them. It occurs to me that many people would take it continuously, and others would have interest aroused in the whole question, if they came across the paper, and that this might be brought about by distributing all "remainders" free. I am ignorant whether it would be permissible to throw a copy into every railway compartment when a train starts on a long journey, but if so, it would be sure to be read by one or more of the passengers. I hope to send a few shillings by "self-denial."—Yours, etc.,

ROSA BRANDON GILL.

2, Eton Villas, Eton Road, N.W.

AN AMUSING PARALLEL.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—Could you make any use of the following quotation from "Peter Plymley's Letters," by Sydney Smith?

I have often thought, if the wisdom of our ancestors had excluded all persons with red hair from the House of Commons, of the throes and convulsions it would occasion to restore them to their natural rights. What mobs and riots would it produce! To what infinite abuse and obloquy would the capillary patriot be exposed; what wormwood would distil from Mr. Perceval, what froth would drop from Mr. Canning; how our Lord Hawkesbury would work away about the hair of King William and Lord Somers, and the authors of the great and glorious revolution; how Lord Eldon would appeal to the Deity and his own virtues, and to the hair of his children. Some would say that red-haired men were superstitious; some would prove they were Atheists; they would be petitioned against as the friends of slavery and the advocates for revolt; in short, such a corrupter of the heart and understanding is the spirit of persecution, that these unfortunate people (conspired against by their fellow subjects of every complexion), if they did not emigrate to countries where hair of another colour was persecuted, would be driven to the falsehood of perukes, or the hypocrisy of the Tricostean said.

Yours, etc., A. M. PERRY.

WOMEN AND WAR.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—I noticed in a recent number of your VOTES FOR WOMEN that you gave a number of instances of heroism on the part of women acting as soldiers, or at any rate engaged in military enterprises. But it is not, I think, generally known that far outside the Kingdom of Dahomey, in Africa, women were organised in the nineteenth century as troops for service in the field on a large scale. They were not only organised, drilled, and sent into the field, but they also carried out with intrepidity, skill, and success many desperate operations in South America.

I had occasion to deliver a lecture on partisan or guerilla warfare to the members of the Royal United Service Institution in February, 1903, and I find that one of my examples was taken from the *Buenos Ayres Standard* of 1826, at which date fierce warfare was waged between various revolted Spanish communities in South America:—

Lieut.-Colonel Margaret Ferreira and Captain Anita Gill are the female officers in command at the pass of the river Tebicuari, where a very respectable force of girls and women is held under arms, to dispute the passage of the river by the allies.

This is the tenor of the advices that last came down from Paraguay; and every well-informed person in military matters knows that they are correct.

Brigadier-General Eliza Lynch, with the main body of the female army, is encamped midway between the pass of a river and a small inland town. On the road to Villa Rica, the right wing of her army, under the command of the mother of Captain Herrero, has deployed slightly to the left, so as to hang on to the invaders should they effect a crossing of the river and cut up Mrs. Colonel Margaret Ferreira and her heroic girls.

Relays of girls and women keep constantly arriving at the headquarters of the female commander-in-chief. From what we gather from letters and statements, it would seem that the male portion of the Paraguayan Army is very much reduced, and is occupied in defending the fortress of Humaita, the positions near Timbo, the encampment at Villa Rica, and the fortifications at Lambare. The guerilla portion of the campaign, or what is here called the *guerra de recursos*, is entrusted to the women of Paraguay; and reliable data suggest that troops to the north, near the Tranquera Loreto, are exclusively composed of women.

You will observe that ladies of British as well as of Spanish descent were in command of very determined woman warriors at that epoch.

Whether woman suffrage be right or wrong, I won't argue now, but of one thing I am well assured, and it is that from every point of view, zeal, intelligence, knowledge of the world, and quickness of apprehension, no body of educated women could possibly make

such an utter mess of all the preparations for, and conduct of, campaigns as is made in each successive generation by such incarnations of complacent ineptitude as compose the present Cabinet.—Yours, etc.,

T. MILLER MACQUIE.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN

DEAR SIR,—I have made arrangements with a newsvendor in the neighbourhood to display a poster of VOTES FOR WOMEN outside the shop for the rest of the year. Standing out, as it does, in the midst of a busy thoroughfare, the poster cannot fail to attract the attention of thousands of passers-by.—Yours, etc.,

Bloomsbury.

C. E. MORDAN.

The Editor of the *Woman's Tribune* (Oregon) writes:—Please send me two copies: I can feel the vibration of British enthusiasm and determination every time I get VOTES FOR WOMEN.—Yours, etc.,

CLARA BEWICK COLBY.

ANOTHER VOTE FOR MRS. PANKHURST.

Mr. A. C. Martin Cross, of 23, Victoria Street, S.W., writes:—"Until women obtain their political liberty I place my Parliamentary vote for the City of Westminster and that for the Wandsworth Division (detached) of West Dulwich at your entire disposal, and undertake to vote as you wish."

A SCHOOLGIRL'S LETTER.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—I just want to tell you that I am quite sure being a Suffragette makes a great difference to one's life. At our school we are all obliged to learn housework just as we learn any other lesson, and a great deal of this is done by the girls. Now housework here involves the brushing of polished floors, which is a thing I never liked, and didn't trouble much about, before I became a Suffragette. But somehow, if there is a scratch or a dull mark left on my floor now, I don't feel worthy of being a Suffragette, and I just polish until all the stains disappear. I feel as though I couldn't leave a thing unless it is well finished, now that I am trying to work for women. I am so very glad I am a Suffragette. I think it is the grandest thing in all the world, and I do believe that when women have the vote they will obliterate many of the dull spots and ugly stains which are so plainly to be seen in the social affairs of England to-day. The elder girls of the school have promised to come with me one Monday to the Queen's Hall, and with them will come one of our mistresses, who is quite unconverted, but perfectly open-minded. I have no doubt that after hearing our side of the question from our speakers, she cannot fail to sympathise with us.—Yours, etc.,

IRENE McLEOD.

Coombe Hill School, Westerham, Kent.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Questions intended for answer in this column should be addressed to the Editors "Votes for Women," and specially marked "Answers to Correspondents." They must be accompanied by name and address of the sender, and should be questions relating directly to Woman Suffrage or to the policy of the N.W.S.P.U.

55. *If votes were given to women who help to support the household by going out and earning wages, would it not be rather hard on the women who stay at home and do just as much work but do not get paid for it?*

Votes are not given to people because they work, but because they are qualified. You will find information on this point (qualifications of voters) in last week's VOTES FOR WOMEN, "Elements of the Woman Suffrage Demand."

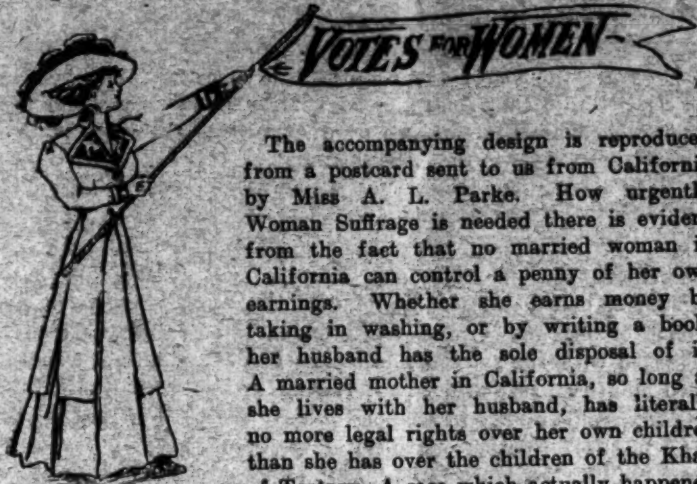
56. *When women are enfranchised, will nurses in hospitals and shopgirls who live in be qualified to vote?*

Yes, if they have separate bedrooms in a house not occupied by the employer.

57. *Will husband and wife each have a vote if they live in a house the rent of which is not less than £20 per annum, not being otherwise qualified?*

The answer to this question depends on the interpretation of the law, and whether husband and wife are allowed to become joint occupiers.

PROGRESS OF WOMEN.



The accompanying design is reproduced from a postcard sent to us from California by Miss A. L. Parke. How urgently Woman Suffrage is needed there is evident from the fact that no married woman in California can control a penny of her own earnings. Whether she earns money by taking in washing, or by writing a book, her husband has the sole disposal of it. A married mother in California, so long as she lives with her husband, has literally no more legal rights over her own children than she has over the children of the Khan of Tartary. A case which actually happened

in an Eastern State might happen to-day in California, or in thirty-four out of the thirty-six States of the Union:—A respectable Irishwoman had married a Chinaman. When their first baby was three days old the husband gave it to his brother to be taken away to China and brought up there. The mother, through the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, appealed to the courts. The judge promptly decided that the husband was within his rights; he was the sole legal owner of the baby and had the sole right to say what should be done with it.

Heroism at Sea.

Mrs. Hannah, one of the passengers saved from the wreck of the "Penguin," which ran on the rocks in a gale recently off Cape Teranhiiti, Cook's Straits, acted with magnificent heroism. She succeeded in saving two lives, and attempted to rescue others. The boat in which she was appears to have been capsized three times. Mrs. Hannah strapped her youngest child to the seat of one of the boats, but the baby was dead when the boat drifted ashore. The husband and three other children of the brave woman were also drowned.

Girls' Red Cross Brigade.

Lady Paget is honorary colonel-in-chief, and Princess Louise Augusta of Schleswig-Holstein, president, of the Church Red Cross Brigade, which has its headquarters at Langham House, Ladbroke Grove, W., the residence of the Rev. Thomas Milner, the commandant. The brigade has four depôts. The clerical officers, as well as the young women and girls who belong to the brigade, all wear a neat uniform. They are thoroughly trained in first aid, especially with a view to field service in war time. Neither this brigade nor the corps of mounted women recently raised by Sergeant-Major Katie Baker is, of course, to be confused with the band of fully trained Territorial nurses now being organised throughout the country.

Women's Return to the Land.

Ten women are about to settle on seven acres of land some few miles from Bournemouth, with the object of engaging in horticulture. The land, which has been granted to the "Ladies' Home Colony" by Lord Shaftesbury, is of very promising quality, and the growing of sweet herbs will be one of the first endeavours of the squatters.

"Real Courage."

Lord Inchiquin, giving instances of cattle-driving in the House of Lords on Thursday, quoted the letter of a widow, who wrote:—"How little England knows of our sufferings! If they do, they don't seem to care whether we are all shot down; but I will fight for my home until I die." This old lady, Lord Inchiquin added, "is nearly eighty years of age, and I call that real courage." (Cheers.)

New York and Anti-Suffrage.

We are indebted to the *Woman's Journal* (Boston) for some interesting facts relating to the New York State Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage. The treasurer's report has just been published with the thirteenth annual report of the Association. It covers the year from December 2, 1907, to December 2, 1908. During the whole year the Association sold only just over £6 worth of pamphlets. On December 2, 1907, it had a balance of about £2 in its treasury. On December 2, 1908, it had a balance of only about 26s., with outstanding bills and accounts amounting to £16 odd. The Association was in debt to the printer, the telephone company, for office rent, and for press cuttings. "No doubt," says our authority, "all these bills have been or will be paid; but the treasurer's whole report is an instructive commentary on the alleged great and growing power of the society. And the New York Asso-

ciation is the strongest of the four "Anti" Associations in the United States, next to that of Massachusetts."

Equal Pay for Equal Work?

Applications from headmistresses as well as headmasters are for the future to be invited by the London County Council Education Committee when there are vacancies for heads at mixed schools. Whether the women are to be paid the same salaries as the men does not, however, appear.

"It's Women for Women Now."

A member of the Extreme Right of the Duma is alleged to have written a most objectionable letter on Duma notepaper to the venerable Mme. Filosofova, the principal organiser of the recent Women's Congress in St. Petersburg. A woman has telegraphed from Mariupol challenging him to a duel.

Agriculture for Women.

Women desirous of entering the ranks of farmers or gardeners should note that the Women's Agricultural and Horticultural International Union is experimenting in the direction of monthly sales of produce in addition to the usual summer show. These are held in the conservatory of the Royal Botanic Society, Regent's Park. The society is also contemplating the starting of a branch in Australia, where students would qualify as farmers. The union was formed ten and a-half years ago by Mrs. Shakespeare Howard, one of the delegates from California to the Woman's Congress of 1898.

The Rhodes Scholarship.

The first woman to hold the Rhodes scholarship for women at Oxford has arrived, and is studying literature. It will be remembered that when Cecil Rhodes left money for scholarships to enable students from America and the Colonies to take a course at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, it was felt hard that these great advantages should be only for men. Mme. Thayer, however, an American lady who had taught at Cheltenham College, set to work to remedy this by founding a private scholarship for women. The scholarship is worth £300 a year, and it is hoped to obtain money enough to endow it permanently.

Round the World with £5.

A Swiss woman (Miss Lina Bögli) has recently completed ten years' travel round the world, earning her own living as a teacher, without either capital or introductions. Miss Bögli relates that the idea came to her as she was resting one Sunday afternoon, and that she went off at once and booked her passage to Sydney, with only £5 in her pocket to begin life in a new country. In Sydney she gave herself two weeks to find teaching work, after which she was willing to become a parlourmaid. A small private school, however, offered her a post, and on this plan she pursued her way round the world, visiting Samoa, Japan, San Francisco, and many other places. She has written an account of her experiences in a little book called "Vorwärts" ("Onward"), published in Germany (Huber and Co., Frauenfeld). "Vorwärts" was the name of her first ship.

Inventive Women.

Attention is drawn in a recently published American Consular report to the striking way in which the scope of inventions by British women is being widened, some 600 patents being granted to them each year. Formerly inventions by women were of a domestic character, and confined rather to the "dainty" order of things; now, however, they have invaded the sphere of mechanics. Patents have recently been granted to British women for improvements in sewing machines, automobiles, and marine engines, and women have also applied for patents relating to flying machines, railway cars, and wireless telegraphy.

A Queen's Crusade.

In a manifesto issued in a dozen different languages, the Queen of Roumania, Carmen Sylva, says a Bukarest telegram, appeals to the women of Europe to boycott corsets as an article of dress. She points out that the corset disfigures natural beauty, besides causing serious injury to health, and asks mothers to instil in their daughters a profound dislike of the garment.

In a three hours' paper-chase on skis at Chateau d'Oex two Englishwomen, Miss J. Crewdson and Miss D. Broadbent, outdistanced all the other runners, reaching home ahead of forty others who started level with them.

A Ladies' Council of the Imperial Maritime League has been formed to co-operate in rousing the country to the urgent need of securing an efficient Navy. Lady St. Helier is the president.

Jessie Debaeck, aged sixteen, when her parents' house was entered by two burglars at Edmonton, refused to tell them where the money was kept, in spite of one of the intruders' threats to murder her.

The National Women's Social & Political Union.

OFFICE:

4, CLEMENTS INN, STRAND, W.C.

Telegrams:—"WOSPOLU, LONDON." Telephone: Holborn 2724 (two lines)

Bankers: Messrs. BARCLAY & CO., Fleet Street.

Mrs. PANKHURST,

Founder and Hon. Sec.

Mrs. TUKE,

Joint Hon. Sec.

Mrs. PETHICK LAWRENCE,

Hon. Treasurer.

Miss CHRISTABEL PANKHURST,

Organising Sec.

Constitution.

OBJECTS.—To secure for women the Parliamentary vote as it is or may be granted to men; to use the power thus obtained to establish equality of rights and opportunities between the sexes, and to promote the social and industrial well-being of the community.

METHODS.—The objects of the Union shall be promoted by—

1. Action entirely independent of all political parties.
2. Opposition to whatever Government is in power until such time as the franchise is granted.
3. Participation in Parliamentary Elections in opposition to the Government candidate, and independently of all other candidates.
4. Vigorous agitation upon lines justified by the position of outlaws to which women are at present condemned.
5. The organising of women all over the country to enable them to give adequate expression to their desire for political freedom.
6. Education of public opinion by all the usual methods, such as public meetings, demonstrations, debates, distribution of literature, newspaper correspondence, and deputations to public representatives.

MEMBERSHIP.—Women of all shades of political opinion who approve the objects and methods of the Union, and who are prepared to act independently of party, are eligible for membership. It must be clearly understood that no member of the Union shall support the candidate of any political party in Parliamentary elections until women have obtained the parliamentary vote. The entrance fee is 1s.

POLITICAL NOTES.

Once more women have been arrested because of an attempt to lay their political grievance before the Government. This vindictive and unwarranted attack made by the Government upon the women who wended their way towards the House of Commons in pursuance of their political duty will be widely condemned. The Women's Social and Political Union were careful to act in the most reasonable manner. Formal notice of their approaching visit to the House of Commons was sent to the Prime Minister by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, the leader of the deputation, two days before that visit took place. The deputation itself proceeded in a most dignified and peaceable manner, and any disorder which may have occurred was due solely to the action of the authorities in obstructing their passage to the House of Commons; indeed, the only thing which the prosecution were able to allege against the members of the deputation was their determination to see the Prime Minister. Never before in the history of these deputations to the Government at Westminster have the public seen so clearly that Suffragists are arrested simply and solely for their persistence in demanding the vote. The Government's pretence that they are imprisoned for lawless behaviour deceives no one, for it has now become so evident that the law, or, rather, the police regulation which they are charged with breaking, is especially created for the purpose of providing the Prime Minister with a shelter from their legitimate agitation.

The most surprising feature of the present situation is the blindness of the Liberal politicians who think that they can imprison women for demanding votes without losing their popu-

larity in the country. This policy of repression without redress of grievance they dare not pursue in Ireland or India for fear of alienating the British electorate. Why, then, do they suppose that the electors will permit them to pursue this illiberal policy where the women of the country are concerned?

So little do they heed the danger in which they stand that they aggravate their offence by disregarding the rules of fair-play in the matter of the trial and imprisonment of their Suffragist opponents. Sentence of imprisonment is inflicted without any consideration for justice or consistency; in fact, the party in power have given one more proof that they hold the liberty of the subject very cheaply. For example, upon the leader of one deputation is imposed the already excessive sentence of one month, while the leader of a second deputation, charged with the same offence, gets the even longer sentence of two months. It would be interesting to know what the Home Secretary has to say in support of such a method of administering justice. Further, in spite of the evident condemnation of the public, the Government still adhere to their decision to deny these political offenders the privileges which civilised countries have decided ought to be accorded to such offenders, and the present Suffragist prisoners, like their predecessors, have been placed in the second division.

The course of action which I have described—the arrest of women for claiming the vote, the manner of their trial, the mode of their imprisonment—must, as those who know and understand the history of our country will agree, bring harm to the Government responsible for it. Those of us who go about the country and are able to test popular opinion have noticed lately a new sympathy with the Woman Suffrage cause, a greater understanding of the methods now being used to promote that cause, and an increased resentment against the Government who resist the constitutional claim which women are making. Perhaps the party leaders, not always quick to mark the signs of the times, do not yet know what a harvest they will reap unless they reverse their present reactionary policy in regard to Woman Suffrage. Perhaps even the Press (not for the first time where great political issues are concerned) fail quite to understand the true state of affairs.

This want of perception is due to the fact that the growth and rise of a popular movement cannot best be observed from the armchair. It is those who go amongst the people, as do the organisers of the Women's Social and Political Union, who know the state of public opinion, and we are able to say that the mass of the people are with us in our demand that to women, as to men, shall be given the right of self-government. The defeat of the Government at Glasgow, due largely to our opposition, is one of those demonstrations of unpopularity which even the most obtuse can understand. The great force of public opinion, which, fortunately, the party politicians cannot ignore, is behind our movement.

Again, Governments—especially, perhaps, the present Liberal Government—are influenced by another force—that of the opinion of the social world in which Cabinet Ministers live, move, and have their being. For long years that world has been almost unstirred by the agitation for Woman Suffrage. In fact, there used to be a measure of truth in the allegation that women belonging to the prosperous classes were indifferent to the question of Woman Suffrage. That indifference proceeded from ignorance of the conditions under which other women live, and it proceeded, too, from the faulty education which prevented the sheltered women from realising their own need of wider opportunities for national service. Many causes have contributed to break down the barriers which kept such women blind to their duty and ignorant of reality. As a result, the desire for political enfranchisement is spreading amongst them, and when these women learn that mere appeal is vain, and that determined protest against political subjection is necessary, the present Government will find that, in consequence of their opposition to Votes for Women, they will incur, in addition to political unpopularity, social unpopularity also.

The brave action of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and her comrades has carried the movement a long stage forward. The advantage thus gained is to be pursued, by the sending of another deputation to the Prime Minister at St. Stephen's on March 30. This announcement will cause every woman in the movement to ask herself whether her turn has not now come to enter a protest against political injustice.

Christabel Pankhurst.

A SECOND LETTER TO WOMEN.

Dear Members and Friends of the Women's Social and Political Union:—

I told you last week that there were three great desires that I should have in my heart all the time that I was in prison.

And I told you the first of those three desires, and I feel perfectly sure, by everything I know about you, by all that you have done in the past, that ever since you received my letter you have been working to bring about its accomplishment. And you will not cease to work for it until the great meeting on March 23 has answered, once for all, the question, "How much in all have we realised for the fund from our week of self-denial and special effort?"

Our Paper, "Votes for Women."

My first wish was, as I explained to you, connected with my office as treasurer. There is another office that I bear in this organisation—that is the office of joint editorship of the paper that belongs to the Women's Social and Political Union—our paper, *VOTES FOR WOMEN*. Now, my second wish is connected with the paper. While I sit in my solitary prison cell all day long, nothing to claim my thoughts for the events of the passing hour, I shall be often saying to myself, "I wonder whether the circulation of the paper is going up every week by several hundred copies? I wonder if the advertisements fill four pages, five pages, by now?"

I cannot tell you how I have cared and thought and worked for the paper from the very first. You know how we started it—my husband, who had edited two papers before, and I, who was quite a novice at the work. From at the outset a small circulation of 2,000, it went up in little more than one year to a circulation of 16,000. And then came the need for extension and development, and the Committee of the N.W.S.P.U. took the paper over and assumed all the financial liabilities which we two had borne alone. But still my husband and I, who had looked after it when it was little and helpless, were not severed from it, and we care for its welfare as much to-day as ever we did.

Now, the first thing that the Committee, when it took over the paper, deemed to be quite essential was to increase its size from sixteen to twenty-four pages. That meant a great additional expense—it meant an extra expenditure of at least £600 a year. But with the campaign so rapidly extending, with the necessity for recording news and also finding a place for educational articles, it was an absolute necessity to enlarge it. Now, the circulation will have to increase by many thousands in order to make good that extra expenditure. Other expenses connected with the business side of the paper had to be incurred in order to develop a rapid growth. Our members know that the paper is really the backbone of our movement, and affords the medium of communication between them in every part of the country. It also represents to the outside world our movement, and sets forth the methods and the aims of our organisation, as well as its strength and importance. Instead of a circulation of 16,000, we ought to have a circulation in the near future of 100,000. How much stronger we should be, how much easier would be the organisation of our campaign!

How is this increase of circulation to be effected? In the same way as every other result in this Union is obtained—by the persistent thought, effort, and work of every one of the members.

Dear fellow members, as soon as Self-denial Week is over, will you devote yourself to this work? One of my eager questions when I once more find myself at liberty will be, "What is the increase in the circulation of *VOTES FOR WOMEN* during all these weeks?"

Increase the Circulation.

How is it to be done? I will give you one or two suggestions; others will, I am sure, occur to you:—

1. Let every member, for every one copy that she now takes, give her newsagent orders to supply her with two during the weeks that we are in prison. Let her send the extra copies to new friends, begging them, when the time is up, to order the paper for themselves.

2. Tell your newsagent that if he will show a poster and put six copies on his shop counter every week you will buy the copies if not sold. Visit the shop often to make sure the poster is shown. If all are sold, gradually increase the order.

3. Canvass the newsagents' shops in your town, and ask them to show a poster. Other shop managers where you deal may be sympathetic to the movement, and may be willing to show a poster, especially when the shop is managed and staffed by women.

4. Join a corps of women in your own town who go out two or three times a week selling papers in the street or at theatre queues.

5. Write to my co-Editor for other suggestions. There are many ways in which your co-operation and service would be most useful.

Make the Paper a Good Advertising Medium.

The advertisement side of the paper needs extension. There are at least two ways in which you can help in this respect, and help at once:—

1. If you live in London or in one of our centres of national work, interview the manager of those shops where you deal largely and ask him to advertise in the paper. Do not let the matter rest there. Write at once to the Editor, giving name and address, so that our advertisement manager can call and clinch the business. Systematic work on these lines on the part of our members would very quickly double the advertisements and render the paper financially strong. That, in turn, would render possible further new developments.

2. There is something more that every member can do. You can give your custom—or part of it, at any rate—to those firms who already advertise with us. It only means a little preliminary trouble. When you are going to buy your new clothes turn to the pages of *VOTES FOR WOMEN* for the names of dress-makers and drapers. You send your curtains, your clothes, to the cleaners; send them to the cleaners who advertise in *VOTES FOR WOMEN*. You use soap for household purposes; try the soap of those makers who advertise in our paper. You use hooks and eyes—you use dozens of things that are advertised in our columns. And in every way you can make our *VOTES FOR WOMEN* a first-class advertising medium. It is so easy, so simple, and yet so important. By following this rule systematically every member can help the paper and help the Union. Do not forget it.

Do not forget. I think that is the cry of those of us in prison—as it is, one feels, the heart's cry of the dead. Remember us, and spare us your thoughts; and oh! do our work for us—do it better than we could do it ourselves, for we are few, you are many. If you will work for us, it is well for us to be here. I have told you, now, this great wish of mine, second only—if it is second—to the one I told you about last week. Work to spread and extend and enhance the value of the paper, and when you meet the Editor on her release from prison she will bless you and thank you with all her heart.

VOTES FOR WOMEN is yours. It belongs to every member of the Union as much as it belongs to me. But it owed its birth to its present editors, and so we feel it to be ours by subtle bonds of kinship. If I see a steady sale of 25,000 and five pages of advertisements when I come out of prison I shall not grudge one hour that has been spent inside.

Dear friends, I am yours in the bonds of closest fellowship.

Emmeline Pethick Lawrence.

(Mrs. Lawrence's idea is developed on page 396, where particulars as to "*Votes for Women*" week, March 12—19, will be found.)

In "VOTES FOR WOMEN," March 12,

Will be published a SPECIAL ARTICLE,

"WHY I AM IN PRISON,"

Written by

MRS. PETHICK LAWRENCE.

AT BOW STREET.

On Thursday (February 25) the women arrested in connection with the deputation to the House of Commons on the 24th came before Sir Albert De Rutzen, at Bow Street, on the charge of obstructing the police. Among those present in the court were Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Lady Betty Balfour, sister of Lady Constance Lytton, and Commander Dugdale. Mr. Muskett made no statement at the outset. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Leslie Lawless were placed in the dock together.

Inspector Jarvis stated that shortly after eight o'clock on Wednesday night the defendants and about 40 other persons walking arm in arm approached the St. Stephen's entrance to the House of Commons. A cordon of police had been drawn up to keep a clear passage for members, but owing to the presence of the Suffragettes the passage was blocked. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence said she wanted to go into the House of Commons to present a petition to Mr. Asquith. Witness said, "Mr. Asquith is not here. If he had been he would not have received you." Mrs. Lawrence said, "I must go in." Witness offered to have the resolution delivered to Mr. Asquith or his secretary. Mrs. Lawrence, however, said, "That will not do. We must go in." She apparently meant that all her companions must go in with her. Witness told her that that was impossible, and that the police had to keep the passage clear. Mrs. Lawrence then turned round to her companions and said, "Come along, ladies." They pressed forward, and there was a struggle between them and the police. For ten minutes witness tried to get them away, and they endeavoured to get past the police. As they persisted they were taken into custody. Owing to their conduct the police reserve had to be called out. An intimation had been sent to the Suffragettes that Mr. Asquith would not be at the House of Commons at the time they had announced their intention of seeing him there.

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's Speech.

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence did not put any questions to Inspector Jarvis, but proceeded to address the magistrate as follows:—

Sir, we do not want to call any witnesses, we do not want to question the evidence of the police, or to embarrass the proceedings of this court in any way, but, with your permission, I should like, on behalf of myself and of the women who are arrested on this charge of obstructing the police, to make a brief statement.

First, sir, I would lay before you this consideration, that the women arrested last night do not belong to the disorderly or the law-breaking part of the community, do not belong to that class which is a social injury and a social menace; we are women of honourable reputation, and many of us have done public service for the welfare of the community. With reference to myself, sir, I may say that I have often been in prisons and in police courts in the capacity of a helper to the helpless. I remember how, twelve years ago, I was called to this very court where we now are, by a kind-hearted officer of the police who had taken pity upon the very tragic case of a young woman who had been arrested. She had been deserted by her husband, had tried to gain support for a mother and little baby, and, finding no employment, she had been driven on to the street to find a livelihood. Well, sir, I won't go into the story; I just want to say that on that day I asked the magistrate to give that woman into my charge, and he was good enough to do so, and to-day that woman is a self-supporting, honourable member of the community.

Well, now, this is only just one instance out of a very, very varied experience which has brought home to my mind the sorrow and the despair that is in the lives of women. It has been my privilege very often to help to alleviate it, but it has been more often my sorrow to have to acknowledge that this terrible curse of the helplessness of women in this country is something no mere individual ever can possibly touch. This, sir, is the conviction that in one way or another has been borne home to the minds of all the women who are before you this morning. It is no anti-social instinct which is driving us to come into conflict with the authorities of the law; on the contrary, it is just this conviction that women must be included in the body politic, for the sake of the fortunate and protected as well as for the sake of those women who are helpless and hopeless, as no man in this country can possibly be helpless and hopeless, because women have no political or legal status at all. Well, sir, so long as women are shut outside the body politic we have no power to urge those changes of legislative and administrative reform which we are convinced would do so much for the uplifting of the position of women in this country, and for the removal of those social evils under which they suffer.

That is the first thing, sir. Now, the second consideration which I would place before you is this—I ask you to consider our contention that though we may have broken a technical law, yet we have broken no moral law in what we have done, and we have not even broken any constitutional law of this realm. The right of presenting petitions has always been an ancient privilege and an acknowledged custom of the unrepresented and the unenfranchised. In historical records we have an account of three processions of women almost identical with our procession last night, the first in the reign of Richard II., the second in the reign of Henry VI., and the third in the reign of Charles I. There is only one statute, and that was in the reign of Charles II., that was ever brought in against this procession to Parliament—and that was only to limit the procession going to Parliament to ten—but I have to point out to you, sir, that this statute, though never repealed, is acknowledged by many legal authorities to be obsolete, and, at any rate, it is not the statute under which we are charged before you to-day.

It is said that we obstructed the police in the discharge of their duty. Well, sir, we are very well aware that the obstruction of the police in whatever commands they may issue is a breach of the technical law, but I want to point out to you that this particular command is of a purely arbitrary kind. Of course, I know that even arbitrary orders must be obeyed—if the police thought fit to forbid us to enter into our own homes, I suppose it would be a breach of the peace if we insisted on doing so, but it is an arbitrary order in this sense, it is enforced against us purely by reason of our known political opinions, and it is enforced against us by our political opponents for political reasons. Now, this very day a deputation of the Labour Party waits upon the Prime Minister upon this very subject about which we wanted to see him yesterday, the subject of Electoral Reform, and so I submit to you, sir, that in this case there is one law for men and another law for women. This is a law not put in force against men, but only against women.

We have not brought any witnesses; we do not want to deny anything; we do not want for one moment to complain of the way in which the police discharged their duty. We know that they were only obeying the order of the Government which has forced this ridiculous and impossible political situation because of their refusal to receive a deputation of women who only demand that the women who pay rates and taxes shall have votes.

Well, sir, I have put the two considerations before you. Now, I want to say that it is open to you to take two views of the situation. It is open to you to consider the women who will appear before you this morning as ordinary brawlers, and in that case, of course, you will impose the trivial sentence you always impose in those instances where a technical breach has been committed without violence, or without injury to anybody. But, sir, I do not believe that you will take that first view. I believe whatever your opinion may be as to the wisdom or the folly of the action which has brought us into the dock this morning, you will recognise that this is a political agitation, and that we stand before you now as political offenders. Because it is a political agitation, we cannot consent, if you ask us to be bound over to keep the peace—we cannot consent, sir, because to do so would be to abandon this political agitation, because to do so would be the negation of what we hold to be our public duty. And, therefore, sir, I ask you to consider that if you bind us over, with an alternative sentence of going to prison, it is only the alternative sentence that will have anything to do with us. If we have to go to prison as an alternative to saying that we will keep the peace, then to prison we shall go, all of us, for that length of time which you specify. But we hold, sir, that if we are sent to prison as offenders in a political agitation, then we are entitled to that treatment as political prisoners which Mr. Ginnell in Ireland received last year, and which Mr. Farrell is receiving at the present day, and the treatment which all political prisoners receive in all civilised countries of the world.

You, sir, as a magistrate, have the responsibility of administering the law. At first sight it may seem to you, as it has seemed to former magistrates, your duty to find us guilty in this matter. You may look to the technicalities of this question, and looking only to the technicalities, you may find it your duty to judge that we have been in the wrong, but I put it to you, sir, if I may, that you represent something deeper, something more abiding than the mere conventionalities of the law—I mean the great abiding principles of equity. By this standard I venture to say you should acquit us. In your honourable position as magistrate a great deal of latitude is allowed you in ordinary cases, so that you may take into consideration not only the facts of the case, but the motives and the character of those who have broken the law.

In our case, the question that your present judgment will decide is whether with regard to the highest conceptions of justice we are guilty at all. There are laws in the British Constitution more lasting, more abiding, more inwrought into the lives of the British people than the laws that are made from time to time at Westminster. By these fundamental laws I hold that we have done no wrong, nay, we have done right in claiming that which is due to the people of this country, to the men, and also to the women—the right of taxation and representation going together.

It rests with you to put aside the conventionalities of the law if you can, and to follow those great lawyers who in the past have abided by the greater and not the lesser traditions of the law.

As one who myself has endeavoured to fulfil a great public duty at a great cost to myself, I venture to urge that if you take this latter course, whatever may be the consequences to yourself, you take the essentially right course, and will win the sanction and the approval of that public opinion which always sooner or later honours those who have been worthy of the past traditions of public service.

The Magistrate's Decision.

Mr. Muskett mentioned that Mrs. Pethick Lawrence went to prison in October, 1906, in default of finding sureties for an offence similar to that with which she was now charged.

Sir Albert de Rutzen said that if this had been the first case of its kind he might have had something to say, but these cases came before him with great regularity, and all of them were much on the same lines. He was afraid, therefore, that any expression of opinion on his part would be too late to do any good. Although the women now before him knew that they would not be admitted to the House of Commons they tried to force their way instead of getting their resolution submitted to the Prime Minister in a constitutional manner. They had acted contrary to the law and the police regulations, and they would be bound over in £20 each to keep the peace for six months, and they must find two sureties in £20 each, or go to prison for two months.

The women declined to be bound over, and elected to go to prison.

The case of the other prisoners was then dealt with. In every instance the women declined to be bound over, and chose to go to prison for the month. Miss Elsa Gye, on account of her previous imprisonment, being given six weeks. Most of the prisoners made no remarks, but Lady Constance Lytton, Mrs. Lamartine Yates, Miss Una Dugdale, Mrs. Frank Corbett, and Mrs. Richmond all briefly addressed the magistrate.

Lady Constance's Lytton's Speech.

I should like to say that I was not invited to join this deputation, but a few weeks ago I wrote, asking that I might be allowed to be one of their number, and my offer was accepted. I am very proud of this privilege, I am more proud of being able to stand in public by my friends than I have ever been of anything in my life.

The Government refuse to receive our deputation on the ground that they are not prepared to grant our request, yet that is the best reason why we should have an opportunity of explaining to them the nature of our demand.

It will probably be said, as it has been said before, that we are unwomanly, but that I deny. I speak only for myself, but so far as I know it would apply to every member of the deputation. I have no quarrel with the action of the police. It was their order that they should prevent me from doing my duty. As regards violence, I am a person of no great physical strength, and last night this was reduced to a minimum by the first rush of the crowd outside the Caxton Hall.

Whatever sentence you may see fit to pass on me, I have no objection to make, but if you think of including the option of a fine, I should like to say that you might as well leave that out, and if my friends are kind enough to think that they are prepared to pay a fine for me, they would render it necessary for me to act in the same way again. My friends, I think, already realise this. That is all I have to say.

Mrs. Lamartine Yates.

I stand here in this common police-court, though a well-behaved and peaceful British subject, for having, I am told, wilfully obstructed the police in the execution of their duty. The primary duty of the police is, I believe, to protect the weak against the strong, but last night their duty seems to have been to protect the strong man, the Prime Minister of this country, against women, who are called the weaker sex. But I consider that they obstructed me in the exercise of my duty, which is higher than a regulation made by a purely arbitrary authority. I recognise as a higher duty the law of liberty. I attempted last night to proceed to the House of Commons as a delegate from all the women of this country, and, your worship, I did so with such dignity as the crowd and the police allowed me to do. I endeavoured to go peaceably, under my constitutional

right, to the House of Commons—the police obstruction was in that, and if resisting their obstruction of my free passage along the King's highway is a criminal act, I am perfectly willing to bear any punishment such a criminal act, in your opinion, deserves, but I hope you will not inflict upon me, in addition to the indignity of standing in a common police-court, that of asking me to be bound over to keep the peace, thereby suggesting that I am a coward, and not a woman at all. For every woman must have the courage of her convictions, and not slink back when she has taken her first step.

I have a little son who is only eight months old, and his father and I decided, after very deliberate and calm consideration, that when that boy grows up he might ask me, "What did you do, mother, in the days of the women's agitation, to lay the views of the women before the Prime Minister?" and I could but blush if I said to him, "I made no attempt to go to the Prime Minister"—and therefore, for that private and that public reason I stand before your worship to-day to bear whatever punishment you may think me deserving of.

Miss Una Dugdale's Speech.

I wish to protest against the inhuman treatment which was meted out to me in Parliament Square last night by order of the present Liberal Government. I have nothing against the police; the constable who took charge of me was considerate in every way; naturally, they were acting under their orders.

You are the representative of justice, but, with due respect to you, there is a higher justice, a divine justice, and that justice will bring Mr. Asquith and his colleagues into account for the cruelty, oppression, and deceit which they have meted out to the women of this movement, who are working with their heart and soul to obtain their political enfranchisement, for the uplifting of the women of these islands.

Mrs. Corbett's Speech.

I should like to say, sir, that I have no complaint to make against the police last night—they obeyed their orders; but I wish to say that I consider the orders of Mr. Asquith and the Liberal Government last night a disgrace to their country. I have never been prouder of the women of this country when moral force, as represented by the women, was pitted against the brute strength of the men. I put my name down as one of the deputation. I honour and respect my leaders more than I can say. The attitude of the crowd was sympathetic and kind in every instance. I consider that last night's proceedings demonstrate more forcibly than ever that the legitimate influence of the ballot-box to the women of this country is an urgent necessity.

Mrs. Richmond said:—"I have worked for Liberalism for twenty years. I have formed Liberal associations, and been their secretary. I was arrested because I asked a Liberal Government to put their principles into practice. I blame the Government, not the police. I am here to protest against the Government."

The Magistrate Corrects his Decision.

Mr. Muskett said Mr. Pethick Lawrence had drawn his attention to the fact that Miss Lawless, unlike his wife, had never been previously convicted, and yet she was ordered to find similar sureties or undergo two months' imprisonment in default. He respectfully suggested that in the case of Miss Lawless the sureties should be reduced and the imprisonment in default be one month only, as in the case of other offenders.

Sir Albert De Rutzen said he quite agreed, and altered his decision accordingly.

The names of most of the women who have gone to prison are by now familiar to our readers from the brief accounts we gave in last week's VOTES FOR WOMEN. Of the remainder, Mrs. and Miss Tyson are among the most devoted of voluntary workers at Clements Inn, the former especially being greatly interested in one of the stalls at the Exhibition.

Mrs. Lamartine Yates, the wife of a solicitor, who warmly supports her in the Suffrage agitation, was educated abroad and at Holloway College, where she distinguished herself in modern languages and philology; she is co-author of the "Modern Languages Calendar." Since her marriage she has, among varied interests, applied herself to the study of the principles and practice of law. She is the only woman on the Council of the C.T.C., to which she was this year returned unopposed for Surrey. Mrs. Yates was influenced in her action on February 24, by the knowledge that Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, for whom she has the greatest admiration, was to lead the deputation.

Miss Sarah Carwin, a nurse, was roused to take militant action on hearing of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's determination to go to the House of Commons on Wednesday, February 24. Miss Ainsworth, Miss Thompson, and Miss Walsh are London members of the W.S.P.U., and Miss Helen Kirkpatrick Watts is the daughter of a Nottinghamshire clergyman.

THE BYE-ELECTIONS.

Very striking is the testimony provided by the results of the Scottish bye-elections of the declining prestige of the Liberal Government in the country, owing to their treatment of women.

Hitherto, while admittedly losing ground in England, the Government have claimed that they still held their position in Scotland. The crushing defeat in Central Glasgow destroys that illusion for ever.

In that constituency the stirring speeches of Mrs. Pankhurst and the story of the imprisonments of our members have so far acted upon the electors that the Liberal candidate has been defeated by an unprecedented majority. In Forfar, though the Liberal retains the seat, his majority has been reduced by over a thousand votes.

GLASGOW (Central).

RESULT.

Mr. G. Scott Dickson, K.C. (Con.)	7,298
Mr. T. Gibson Bowles (Liberal)	5,185
Majority	2,113

The figures at the last election were:—Sir Andrew M. Torrance (L.), 6,790; Lt.-Col. J. G. A. Baird (U.), 6,389. Majority, 491.

The fine weather greatly assisted our campaign, enabling us to hold from eight to ten open-air meetings every day, in addition to those in the public halls, where crowded audiences gathered to hear Mrs. Pankhurst. The questions asked at these meetings showed plainly that our demand occupied the close attention of the electors. We were seldom called upon to justify or explain the reasons why we want a vote. Instead, the Irish Home Ruler or the Scottish Free-Trader asked what the effect on these questions would be if he cast his vote against the Government to help the women; or the ardent Liberal wished to know how he should intimate to Mr. Asquith that he had given his vote on our question only, while his opinions on other points remained unchanged.

The Men's League issued a manifesto calling on the electors to help the women's cause, and those who had votes in the Central Division announced their intention of giving these against the Government. The following is an extract from a letter by Dr. John Hunter in the *Glasgow Herald* of March 1:—

Sir,—I crave space in your columns to be allowed to urge on the earnest and chivalrous Liberals of Central Glasgow to abstain from voting at this election as a protest against the infamous treatment by the Government of women—many of them cultivated and philanthropic women—who are simply pleading for the elementary right of citizenship, the right of representation going along with taxation. The abstention of Liberal electors from voting will not be a serious matter, as nothing critical depends on the issue of this bye-election, while their protest could not fail to have a healthy influence on those Liberal politicians who are inclined, in more ways than one, to play fast and loose with Liberal principles. . . . JOHN HUNTER.

18, Kensington Gate, W., February 27.

The political situation was an interesting one. The absence of any prominent party question led men to weigh their votes with more care than is often done in a moment of national excitement. Little daily incidents showed this. A man would tender 2s. 6d. in payment for a copy of *VOTES FOR WOMEN*, with the friendly remark, "You are sure of one man's vote anyhow." Another was overheard remarking to a friend, "You hear more common sense from these women than from all the Members of Parliament put together." We have the satisfaction of knowing that a good fight has been fought, and that the cause of Votes for Women is stronger to-day in Glasgow than it ever was before.

G. M. Conolan.

FORFARSHIRE.

RESULT.

Mr. James Falconer (Liberal)	6,422
Mr. R. L. Blackburn (Unionist)	3,970
Majority	2,452

The figures at the General Election were as follows:—Sir John Sinclair (L.), 6,796; Mr. J. M. Bernard (L.U.), 3,277. Liberal majority, 3,519.

The result of the poll here has been to reduce the Liberal majority by 1,067 votes. Considering the enormous Government majority at the last election, and the difficulties of the constituency, we have no reason to feel discouraged. Excellent educative work has been done, and certainly horror and indignation have been aroused by the treatment accorded to the deputation of women who sought an interview with the Prime Minister on February 24. The eagerness with which the women listened to the speakers and the warmth of their sympathy and support are especially encouraging, and we feel that, if only for the sake of having brought them into touch with this great movement, which means so much to all who understand it, this campaign would have been well worth while even had the result been less satisfactory. At Carnoustie a women's meeting

was held on the afternoon of the 24th, and at its close a message was telegraphed to Caxton Hall wishing success to the deputation, one of the audience immediately volunteering to pay for the telegram. Miss Macgregor has subscribed £1 to the bye-election fund, and another £1 has been received from an anonymous sympathiser.

Mary Phillips.

HAWICK BURGHS.

Unionist	Mr. Hulford John Mackinder.
Liberal	Sir John Barran.

The figures at the last election were:—Rt. Hon. T. Shaw: K.C. (L.), 3,125; Sir A. Conan Doyle (C.), 2,444. Majority, 681.

Polling: To-day.

Committee Rooms.—25, High Street, Hawick; Market Place, Galashiels.

Hawick.—Though at the time of going to press we cannot record the result of the poll, it is safe to say that our work here has done a great deal in furthering the cause of Woman's Suffrage in this constituency, and there are few who have not heard the women's claim explained. Mrs. Pankhurst was listened to with the utmost interest and attention, and frequent applause punctuated her speech at the Town Hall; our resolution, carried with acclamation, was forwarded to the Prime Minister. "Teribus," with our election words, was played by a piper before the meeting, and the hall-keeper arranged that the platform should represent a prison cell. We most gratefully acknowledge the many kindnesses received throughout the campaign from friends in the town.

Galashiels.—The audience at the Drill Hall on Wednesday, estimated by the local Press as over 1,600, carried the usual resolution with enthusiasm and only six dissentients; and Miss Gawthorpe had the audience with her from beginning to end. The women's meetings have also been greatly appreciated; and at the committee rooms literature and information have been dispensed to many inquirers.

Selkirk.—A very large meeting was held in the Market Place on Monday, and another in the Co-operative Hall on Thursday; at both the usual resolution was carried by a crowded audience, with only a few dissentients. Our helpers and workers are Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Brown, the Misses Crocker, Roberts, Ball, Garnett, and Balls, and all have done gallant work.

Financial Report.—Drill Hall, Galashiels (February 24), collection, £2 14s. 1d.; dinner hour open-air meeting collection (February 25), 17s.; women's meeting, 10s.; Selkirk Co-operative Hall collection, £1 0s. 2d.; Anon, 10s.; Women's meeting, Galashiels, 5s. 7½d.; public meeting, Galashiels, 5s. 5d.; February 27, open-air meeting, 2s.; Town Hall meeting collection, £5 13s. 6d.; door money, £6 15s.

Further contributions to the Bye-Election Expenses Fund will be gratefully accepted.

Edith New.

SOUTH EDINBURGH.

Conservative	Mr. Harold B. Cox.
Liberal	Mr. Arthur Dewar.
Labour	Mr. Wm. Stewart.

The figures at the last election were:—Arthur Dewar, K.C. (L.), 8,945; William O. Smith, K.C. (C.), 5,985. Majority, 2,960.

By the time this report appears in print, polling day (Thursday) will have gone by. We are doing our best to make the result a satisfactory one, and are meeting with much sympathy and comprehension on the part of the Liberal electors. We have the valuable and much-appreciated help of the Misses Brackenbury, Miss Joachim, Miss Ogston, Miss Allen, Miss Mills, Miss James, and Mrs. Willock. The local workers also have rendered important assistance. The Misses Haig, Miss Chapman, Miss Burn Murdoch, and Miss Login are constantly in the Committee Rooms or stewarding at the various meetings. Miss Kemp superintends much of the literature, and many others are giving us all the spare time at their disposal. We made the utmost of Mrs. Pankhurst's visit on Monday, February 22. Besides the drawing-room meeting at Mrs. Maxtone-Graham's in the morning, she addressed a gathering of city men at Dowell's Rooms, and a meeting at the Tynecastle Hall in the evening. On Friday she spoke to a crowded and sympathetic audience in the Fountainbridge Public School, the use of which, a very great boon, we have been able to obtain during the bye-election. Mrs. Ivory's motor, which is so often placed at our disposal, has enabled us to get through twice as much work as we could otherwise have done. Our audiences appreciated the devotion and self-sacrifice of the women who are doing so much and so splendidly in London. On the eve of the poll we are holding a meeting for voters and women only, which Mrs. Pankhurst is to address.

I am sending £6 1s. 3d. to the Treasurer this week, the result of collections, etc., at the various indoor bye-election meetings.

F. E. M. Macculay.

RELEASE OF PRISONERS.

On Saturday morning Mrs. Clarke, Miss Irene Dallas, and Miss Douglas Smith were released from Holloway after a month's imprisonment in the second division for attempting to interview the Prime Minister at Downing Street during the sitting of the Cabinet Council.

The prisoners were met at the prison gates by Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Mr. Pethick Lawrence, and a number of members of the N.W.S.P.U.; two bands were in attendance, and before leaving the women gave three rousing cheers for those inside the prison, while the bands played the "Marseillaise." The released prisoners were then conveyed in a park phaeton through the snow-sprinkled, wintry streets, followed by the procession and the **VOTES FOR WOMEN** Press cart, and with colours flying and bands playing they were welcomed by a very large company at the Inns of Court Hotel. Here breakfast was served, at which Miss Christabel Pankhurst presided, among those present being Mrs. Tuke, Dr. Marie Pethick, "General" Drummond, and Mr. Pethick Lawrence. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed, the speakers being cheered to the echo. Miss Christabel Pankhurst, in welcoming the women just released, said the Union was deeply grateful to them for their action in trying to effect an interview with Mr. Asquith at 10, Downing Street, on January 25. (Cheers.) Referring to the deputation to the House of Commons by another section of the fighting Suffragists, to the leader of which a most excessive sentence of one month's imprisonment had been meted out—"Shame!"—she asked why the magistrate had inflicted an even more excessive punishment (two months' imprisonment) on Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, the leader of the W.S.P.U.'s deputation on February 24. ("Shame!") In the two cases the offence was precisely the same. Either Sir Albert de Rutzen acted on no particular principle or these sentences had been prescribed beforehand by a person who should be nameless. Whichever it was, it inspired women with very little confidence in the system of justice. But the refusal of the Prime Minister to receive the deputations sent by the women would not deter them. Another deputation, this time of London and Lancashire women, would go to the House of Commons on March 30, and she appealed to her hearers not to be content with looking on, but to, form part of the deputation.

Mrs. Clarke said she brought a message from Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, whom she had seen that morning. She said that just as the women's movement had been able to send more deputations to the House of Commons asking for enfranchisement, and to hold greater meetings demanding the franchise than had been the case with any other body of people fighting for their rights, she wanted the number of women prepared to undergo imprisonment for the sake of political freedom to exceed that of any other body, such as the Chartists.

Brief speeches were also made by Miss Douglas Smith and Miss Dallas, both of whom said they had heard in the prison that bye-elections were taking place, and they were quite ready to go to work again immediately. Mr. Pethick Lawrence referred to the deputation to the Prime Minister on Infant Mortality, which had just taken place. Did Mr. Asquith say that this evil was owing to the women having no voice in the making of the laws, or to the defective housing? No, he attributed it entirely to the ignorance of the mothers, the unskilled work of the midwives, and bad food. If there were no stronger reason for women's enfranchisement the futility of that reply would provide ground enough for this agitation.

On the conclusion of the proceedings, a number of women went to Clements Inn to take part in flower-selling in the streets for the Self-Denial Fund.

HECKLING CABINET MINISTERS.

On Friday (February 26) Mr. Haldane, addressing a meeting of Territorials in the Dome at Brighton, was the recipient of several telegrams and express letters reminding him of the urgency of women's enfranchisement. Women in the meantime held a protest meeting at Preston Circus. On leaving the Dome Mr. Haldane followed the example of his colleague, Mr. Birrell, on a former occasion, and left by the underground passage which connects it with the Pavilion. He did not, however, escape the women, who kept watch on his movements and reminded him verbally of Votes for Women as he entered his motor-car. The local papers announced reports of the Dome meeting and the women's protest side by side.

Mr. Birrell at Cambridge.

Mr. Birrell was the guest of the Eighty Club at Cambridge on Saturday night. A member of the W.S.P.U. who was staying in the same hotel, being courteously offered a seat in the banquet hall, asked him at the close of his speech, which dealt with Ireland, "When are you going to enfranchise the women of England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales? When is justice going to begin at home?" Every word was distinctly heard by the 300 guests, and the lady was afterwards warmly congratulated on her protest.

An amusing feature was that one of the doorkeepers was heard cheerfully laying a wager that no Suffragettes would get past the cordon drawn up across the only entrance.

The *Cambridge Daily News*, commenting on the event, says:—The interruption was so unexpected that it came with something of a shock. All eyes were turned to the lady near the door, whose arm was taken by Dr. G. Cunningham, while Mr. Sheppard hurried up to render assistance if need be. Having accomplished her purpose—in as nice a manner as it is possible for a Suffragette to force the claim of militants upon the attention of a Cabinet Minister—the lady suffered herself to be led away. The Chairman restored equanimity of mind by observing that there was no cause for alarm or excitement.

A Reminder to Mr. Lloyd George.

On Sunday a member of the W.S.P.U. met the Chancellor of the Exchequer in Victoria Street, and said, in passing, "Votes for Women, Mr. George." As she was handicapped by a perambulator and two babies any further homily on the text was impossible, and the Chancellor, recognising this, smiled almost genially!

Mr. McKenna at Barrow.

On the occasion of the christening of the *Vanguard* by Mrs. McKenna at Barrow (February 22) she was accompanied by Mr. McKenna, and to him a woman put the question on his arrival: Why had he and his colleagues left Votes for Women out of the King's Speech? His reply was a wave of the hand and "Go away." She was at once seized by three policemen, but again breaking away reminded the First Lord that women, as well as men, helped to pay for "Dreadnoughts." After Mr. McKenna had passed into the luncheon room a sympathetic tradesman brought out a box and invited the women to hold a meeting. Surrounded by a large and interested crowd, they did so under the window of the room in which the guests of the day were lunching. They were, however, moved on by the police. After three attempts to speak, the remarks of the crowd (which had greatly increased in numbers) regarding fair play and free speech, and their growing desire to hear what the women had to say, compelled the authorities to find a place where the meeting could be held. They were conducted to the Market Place, where they held a most enthusiastic meeting. Although this was the first occasion on which Suffragettes had visited the town, a unanimous vote was taken in favour of their claim, and there were several requests to return to Barrow and give the townspeople an opportunity of hearing more about the cause. The women were escorted to the station by a large crowd, who cheered them off, many people pressing forward to shake hands with them. Much more excitement, it was evident, had been created by the presence of the Suffragettes than by that of the Cabinet Minister.

AT THE QUEEN'S HALL ON MONDAY.

In striking contrast to the bitter cold and snow outside in the streets, a warmth of enthusiasm prevailed inside the Queen's Hall on Monday last at the weekly At Home of the Women's Social and Political Union. Miss Pankhurst, who presided, described the events of the previous week, and called upon members to respond and be ready to take their part in another deputation which was to wait upon the Prime Minister on Tuesday, March 30.

Mrs. Clarke, who had been released on the previous Saturday, said that Mr. Asquith reminded her of the old man who had attempted in vain to bar and bolt the door against the oncoming of the younger generation. He would find at last his mistake, and when that day came he would fall from his position and his prestige would be gone for ever.

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MRS. PANKHURST AT NEWCASTLE.

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THE BYE-ELECTIONS.

Very striking is the testimony provided by the results of the Scottish bye-elections of the declining prestige of the Liberal Government in the country, owing to their treatment of women.

Hitherto, while admittedly losing ground in England, the Government have claimed that they still held their position in Scotland. The crushing defeat in Central Glasgow destroys that illusion for ever.

In that constituency the stirring speeches of Mrs. Pankhurst and the story of the imprisonments of our members have so far acted upon the electors that the Liberal candidate has been defeated by an unprecedented majority. In Forfar, though the Liberal retains the seat, his majority has been reduced by over a thousand votes.

GLASGOW (Central).

RESULT.

Mr. G. Scott Dickson, K.C. (Con.)	..	..	7,298
Mr. T. Gibson Bowles (Liberal)	..	..	5,185
Majority	..	..	2,113

The figures at the last election were:—Sir Andrew M. Torrance (L.), 6,780; Lt.-Col. J. G. A. Baird (U.), 6,289. Majority, 491.

The fine weather greatly assisted our campaign, enabling us to hold from eight to ten open-air meetings every day, in addition to those in the public halls, where crowded audiences gathered to hear Mrs. Pankhurst. The questions asked at these meetings showed plainly that our demand occupied the close attention of the electors. We were seldom called upon to justify or explain the reasons why we want a vote. Instead, the Irish Home Ruler or the Scottish Free Trader asked what the effect on these questions would be if he cast his vote against the Government to help the women; or the ardent Liberal wished to know how he should intimate to Mr. Asquith that he had given his vote on our question only, while his opinions on other points remained unchanged.

The Men's League issued a manifesto calling on the electors to help the women's cause, and those who had votes in the Central Division announced their intention of giving these against the Government. The following is an extract from a letter by Dr. John Hunter in the *Glasgow Herald* of March 1:—

Sir,—I crave space in your columns to be allowed to urge on the earnest and chivalrous Liberals of Central Glasgow to abstain from voting at this election as a protest against the infamous treatment by the Government of women—many of them cultivated and philanthropic women—who are simply pleading for the elementary right of citizenship, the right of representation going along with taxation. The abstention of Liberal electors from voting will not be a serious matter, as nothing critical depends on the issue of this bye-election, while their protest could not fail to have a healthy influence on those Liberal politicians who are inclined, in more ways than one, to play fast and loose with Liberal principles. . . . JOHN HUNTER.

18, Kensington Gate, W., February 27.

The political situation was an interesting one. The absence of any prominent party question led men to weigh their votes with more care than is often done in a moment of national excitement. Little daily incidents showed this. A man would tender 2s. 6d. in payment for a copy of *VOTES FOR WOMEN*, with the friendly remark, "You are sure of one man's vote anyhow." Another was overheard remarking to a friend, "You hear more common sense from these women than from all the Members of Parliament put together." We have the satisfaction of knowing that a good fight has been fought, and that the cause of Votes for Women is stronger to-day in Glasgow than it ever was before. G. M. Conolan.

FORFARSHIRE.

RESULT.

Mr. James Falconer (Liberal)	..	..	6,522
Mr. R. L. Blackburn (Unionist)	..	..	3,970
Majority	..	..	2,552

The figures at the General Election were as follows:—Sir John Sinclair (L.), 6,796; Mr. J. M. Bernard (L.U.), 3,277. Liberal majority, 3,519.

The result of the poll here has been to reduce the Liberal majority by 1,067 votes. Considering the enormous Government majority at the last election, and the difficulties of the constituency, we have no reason to feel discouraged. Excellent educative work has been done, and certainly horror and indignation have been aroused by the treatment accorded to the deputation of women who sought an interview with the Prime Minister on February 24. The eagerness with which the women listened to the speakers and the warmth of their sympathy and support are especially encouraging, and we feel that, if only for the sake of having brought them into touch with this great movement, which means so much to all who understand it, this campaign would have been well worth while even had the result been less satisfactory. At Carnoustie a women's meeting

was held on the afternoon of the 24th, and at its close a message was telegraphed to Carlton Hall wishing success to the deputation, one of the audience immediately volunteering to pay for the telegram. Miss Macgregor has subscribed £1 to the bye-election fund, and another £1 has been received from an anonymous sympathiser. Mary Phillips.

HAWICK BURGHS.

Unionist	..	Mr. Hulford John Mackinder.
Liberal	..	Sir John Barran.

The figures at the last election were:—Lt. Hon. T. Shaw, K.C. (L.), 3,125; Sir A. Conan Doyle (C.), 2,444. Majority, 681.

Polling: To-day.

Committee Rooms.—25, High Street, Hawick; Market Place, Galashiels.

Hawick.—Though at the time of going to press we cannot record the result of the poll, it is safe to say that our work here has done a great deal in furthering the cause of Woman's Suffrage in this constituency, and there are few who have not heard the women's claim explained. Mrs. Pankhurst was listened to with the utmost interest and attention, and frequent applause punctuated her speech at the Town Hall; our resolution, carried with acclamation, was forwarded to the Prime Minister. "Teribus," with our election words, was played by a piper before the meeting, and the hall-keeper arranged that the platform should represent a prison cell. We most gratefully acknowledge the many kindnesses received throughout the campaign from friends in the town.

Galashiels.—The audience at the Drill Hall on Wednesday, estimated by the local Press as over 1,600, carried the usual resolution with enthusiasm and only six dissentients; and Miss Gawthorpe had the audience with her from beginning to end. The women's meetings have also been greatly appreciated; and at the committee rooms literature and information have been dispensed to many inquirers.

Selkirk.—A very large meeting was held in the Market Place on Monday, and another in the Co-operative Hall on Thursday; at both the usual resolution was carried by a crowded audience, with only a few dissentients. Our helpers and workers are Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Brown, the Misses Crocker, Roberts, Ball, Garnett, and Balls, and all have done gallant work.

Financial Report.—Drill Hall, Galashiels (February 24), collection, £2 14s. 1d.; dinner hour open-air meeting collection (February 25), 17s.; women's meeting, 10s.; Selkirk Co-operative Hall collection, £1 0s. 2d.; Anon, 10s.; Women's meeting, Galashiels, 5s. 7½d.; public meeting, Galashiels, 5s. 5d.; February 27, open-air meeting, 2s.; Town Hall meeting collection, £5 13s. 6d.; door money, £6 15s.

Further contributions to the Bye-Election Expenses Fund will be gratefully accepted.

Edith New.

SOUTH EDINBURGH.

Conservative	..	..	Mr. Harold B. Cox.
Liberal	..	..	Mr. Arthur Dewar.
Labour	..	..	Mr. Wm. Stewart.

The figures at the last election were:—Arthur Dewar, K.C. (L.), 8,945; William C. Smith, K.C. (C.), 5,985. Majority, 2,960.

By the time this report appears in print, polling day (Thursday) will have gone by. We are doing our best to make the result a satisfactory one, and are meeting with much sympathy and comprehension on the part of the Liberal electors. We have the valuable and much-appreciated help of the Misses Brackenbury, Miss Joachim, Miss Ogston, Miss Allen, Miss Mills, Miss James, and Mrs. Willock. The local workers also have rendered important assistance. The Misses Haig, Miss Chapman, Miss Burn Murdoch, and Miss Login are constantly in the Committee Rooms or stewarding at the various meetings. Miss Kemp superintends much of the literature, and many others are giving us all the spare time at their disposal. We made the utmost of Mrs. Pankhurst's visit on Monday, February 22. Besides the drawing-room meeting at Mrs. Maxtone-Graham's in the morning, she addressed a gathering of city men at Dowell's Rooms, and a meeting at the Tynecastle Hall in the evening. On Friday she spoke to a crowded and sympathetic audience in the Fountainbridge Public School, the use of which, a very great boon, we have been able to obtain during the bye-election. Mrs. Ivory's motor, which is so often placed at our disposal, has enabled us to get through twice as much work as we could otherwise have done. Our audiences appreciated the devotion and self-sacrifice of the women who are doing so much and so splendidly in London. On the eve of the poll we are holding a meeting for voters and women only, which Mrs. Pankhurst is to address.

I am sending £6 1s. 3d. to the Treasurer this week, the result of collections, etc., at the various indoor bye-election meetings.

F. E. M. Macaulay.

RELEASE OF PRISONERS.

On Saturday morning Mrs. Clarke, Miss Irene Dallas, and Miss Douglas Smith were released from Holloway after a month's imprisonment in the second division for attempting to interview the Prime Minister at Downing Street during the sitting of the Cabinet Council.

The prisoners were met at the prison gates by Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Mr. Pethick Lawrence, and a number of members of the N.W.S.P.U.; two bands were in attendance, and before leaving the women gave three rousing cheers for those inside the prison, while the bands played the "Marseillaise." The released prisoners were then conveyed in a park phaeton through the snow-sprinkled, wintry streets, followed by the procession and the **VOTES FOR WOMEN** Press cart, and with colours flying and bands playing they were welcomed by a very large company at the Inns of Court Hotel. Here breakfast was served, at which Miss Christabel Pankhurst presided, among those present being Mrs. Tuke, Dr. Marie Pethick, "General" Drummond, and Mr. Pethick Lawrence. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed, the speakers being cheered to the echo. Miss Christabel Pankhurst, in welcoming the women just released, said the Union was deeply grateful to them for their action in trying to effect an interview with Mr. Asquith at 10, Downing Street, on January 25. (Cheers.) Referring to the deputation to the House of Commons by another section of the fighting Suffragists, to the leader of which a most excessive sentence of one month's imprisonment had been meted out—"Shame!"—she asked why the magistrate had inflicted an even more excessive punishment (two months' imprisonment) on Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, the leader of the W.S.P.U.'s deputation on February 24. ("Shame!") In the two cases the offence was precisely the same. Either Sir Albert de Rutzen acted on no particular principle or these sentences had been prescribed beforehand by a person who should be nameless. Whichever it was, it inspired women with very little confidence in the system of justice. But the refusal of the Prime Minister to receive the deputations sent by the women would not deter them. Another deputation, this time of London and Lancashire women, would go to the House of Commons on March 30, and she appealed to her hearers not to be content with looking on, but to form part of the deputation.

Mrs. Clarke said she brought a message from Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, whom she had seen that morning. She said that just as the women's movement had been able to send more deputations to the House of Commons asking for enfranchisement, and to hold greater meetings demanding the franchise than had been the case with any other body of people fighting for their rights, she wanted the number of women prepared to undergo imprisonment for the sake of political freedom to exceed that of any other body, such as the Chartists.

Brief speeches were also made by Miss Douglas Smith and Miss Dallas, both of whom said they had heard in the prison that bye-elections were taking place, and they were quite ready to go to work again immediately. Mr. Pethick Lawrence referred to the deputation to the Prime Minister on Infant Mortality, which had just taken place. Did Mr. Asquith say that this evil was owing to the women having no voice in the making of the laws, or to the defective housing? No, he attributed it entirely to the ignorance of the mothers, the unskilled work of the midwives, and bad food. If there were no stronger reason for women's enfranchisement the futility of that reply would provide ground enough for this agitation.

On the conclusion of the proceedings a number of women went to Clements Inn to take part in flower-selling in the streets for the Self-Denial Fund.

HECKLING CABINET MINISTERS.

On Friday (February 26) Mr. Haldane, addressing a meeting of Territorials in the Dome at Brighton, was the recipient of several telegrams and express letters reminding him of the urgency of women's enfranchisement. Women in the meantime held a protest meeting at Preston Circus. On leaving the Dome Mr. Haldane followed the example of his colleague, Mr. Birrell, on a former occasion, and left by the underground passage which connects it with the Pavilion. He did not, however, escape the women, who kept watch on his movements and reminded him verbally of Votes for Women as he entered his motor-car. The local papers announced reports of the Dome meeting and the women's protest side by side.

Mr. Birrell at Cambridge.

Mr. Birrell was the guest of the Eighty Club at Cambridge on Saturday night. A member of the W.S.P.U. who was staying in the same hotel, being courteously offered a seat in the banquet hall, asked him at the close of his speech, which dealt with Ireland, "When are you going to enfranchise the women of England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales? When is justice going to begin at home?" Every word was distinctly heard by the 300 guests, and the lady was afterwards warmly congratulated on her protest.

An amusing feature was that one of the doorkeepers was heard cheerfully laying a wager that no Suffragettes would get past the cordon drawn up across the only entrance.

The *Cambridge Daily News*, commenting on the event, says:—The interruption was so unexpected that it came with something of a shock. All eyes were turned to the lady near the door, whose arm was taken by Dr. G. Cunningham, while Mr. Sheppard hurried up to render assistance if need be. Having accomplished her purpose—in as nice a manner as it is possible for a Suffragette to force the claim of militants upon the attention of a Cabinet Minister—the lady suffered herself to be led away. The Chairman restored equanimity of mind by observing that there was no cause for alarm or excitement.

A Reminder to Mr. Lloyd George.

On Sunday a member of the W.S.P.U. met the Chancellor of the Exchequer in Victoria Street, and said, in passing, "Votes for Women, Mr. George." As she was handicapped by a perambulator and two babies any further homily on the text was impossible, and the Chancellor, recognising this, smiled almost genially!

Mr. McKenna at Barrow.

On the occasion of the christening of the *Vanguard* by Mrs. McKenna at Barrow (February 22) she was accompanied by Mr. McKenna, and to him a woman put the question on his arrival: Why had he and his colleagues left Votes for Women out of the King's Speech? His reply was a wave of the hand and "Go away." She was at once seized by three policemen, but again breaking away reminded the First Lord that women, as well as men, helped to pay for "Dreadnoughts." After Mr. McKenna had passed into the luncheon room a sympathetic tradesman brought out a box and invited the women to hold a meeting. Surrounded by a large and interested crowd, they did so under the window of the room in which the guests of the day were lunching. They were, however, moved on by the police. After three attempts to speak, the remarks of the crowd (which had greatly increased in numbers) regarding fair play and free speech, and their growing desire to hear what the women had to say, compelled the authorities to find a place where the meeting could be held. They were conducted to the Market Place, where they held a most enthusiastic meeting. Although this was the first occasion on which Suffragettes had visited the town, a unanimous vote was taken in favour of their claim, and there were several requests to return to Barrow and give the townspeople an opportunity of hearing more about the cause. The women were escorted to the station by a large crowd, who cheered them off, many people pressing forward to shake hands with them. Much more excitement, it was evident, had been created by the presence of the Suffragettes than by that of the Cabinet Minister.

AT THE QUEEN'S HALL ON MONDAY.

In striking contrast to the bitter cold and snow outside in the streets, a warmth of enthusiasm prevailed inside the Queen's Hall on Monday last at the weekly At Home of the Women's Social and Political Union. Miss Pankhurst, who presided, described the events of the previous week, and called upon members to respond and be ready to take their part in another deputation which was to wait upon the Prime Minister on Tuesday, March 30.

Mrs. Clarke, who had been released on the previous Saturday, said that Mr. Asquith reminded her of the old man who had attempted in vain to bar and bolt the door against the oncoming of the younger generation. He would find at last his mistake, and when that day came he would fall from his position and his prestige would be gone for ever.

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MRS. PANKHURST AT NEWCASTLE.

On Monday evening Mrs. Pankhurst addressed a large meeting in the Town Hall, Newcastle, when, in spite of the rowdy behaviour of boys at the back of the hall, she stood her ground throughout, giving a clear exposition of the political situation and of the meaning of the militant tactics. Mrs. Taylor presided, and there were also on the platform the Hon. Mrs. Parsons, Mrs. Atkinson, Miss Edith New, and Sir Francis Blake.

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THE CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES.

Office: 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

This week we are able to record that, in addition to keeping our flag flying in the old centres, we are planting it in entirely new ground. Thanks to the generosity of those N.W.S.P.U. members who are subscribing towards the fund for additional organisers, we have now four new probationary organisers at work in London and the environs. Miss Corson is working in Bowes Park; Miss Law, in Acton and Ealing; Miss Dallas (who has just served a month's imprisonment in Holloway) is engaged in the special campaign for VOTES FOR WOMEN week; and Miss McLellan is preparing for a meeting at Croydon, where Committee Rooms, at 46, High Street, have been taken, and offers of help will be welcomed. Among the voluntary workers Mrs. and Miss Roberts are generously undertaking the literature stall at the At Homes on Thursday evenings.

Last Thursday's At Home was remarkable for the spirit of enthusiasm displayed by the large audience, which included a number of men. Miss Christabel Pankhurst presided, and the speakers were Mrs. Saul Solomon and Miss Burnett (members of the deputation to the House of Commons on the previous evening), Mrs. Pankhurst, and Mr. Pethick Lawrence.

Notwithstanding the exceedingly bad weather, there was a good attendance at the Monday afternoon At Home, and a good collection for Self-Denial Week was made. At next Monday's At Home Mrs. Pankhurst will speak, and another self-denial collection will be made, which will, we hope, exceed even that of last Monday in amount. Members are asked to help in advertising this At Home by taking out handbills, etc. They should come to Clements Inn on Saturday, March 6.

Londoners should make a point of attending one or both of these At Homes, bringing with them unconverted friends. These meetings are not only a means of education for the unconverted, but are also a show of strength, and attendance at them is an important duty which London members owe to the Union.

Self-Denial Week is naturally occupying our attention this week, and though the weather leaves much to be desired members are co-operating splendidly. On Saturday morning a band of workers went to Covent Garden early in the morning and purchased flowers, which they brought back to Clements Inn and arranged ready for the sellers, who started out at ten o'clock to sell in the streets of the City and West End. They met with a splendid reception. Another band invaded the theatre queues, meeting also with a cordial welcome. As the weather makes street collecting practically impossible, we hope collectors will work all the harder to get their cards filled instead.

We want to have another great field day on Saturday (6th), and shall be glad if those willing to help will come to 4, Clements Inn punctually at 10.30 a.m., and again in the afternoon at 2.30; or some in the morning and others in the afternoon. Women are also wanted to go to Covent Garden early on Saturday morning to purchase flowers. Will those who are able to do this meet Miss Jessie Kenney at 6 a.m. at 4, Clements Inn?

Preparations are already being made for the procession to escort the prisoners from Holloway on the 24th. A corps of horsewomen is being formed, and this will, we hope, always form part of our processions. We want riders to send in their names as members of the corps. A special uniform in the colours is being designed, and we think this corps will be a very attractive feature of our field days. We are also considering the question of a uniform for those who walk in the processions. We hope that, in view of the number of processions we hope to have during the coming months, all our London members will, in buying their spring clothes, adhere to the colours of the Union. Even if they do not wear uniform, this simple plan will help to carry out our colour scheme.

We have a special scheme for Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's release, and for this we want thirty women to take part. They should be able to give three free evenings a week to practising, and also to have some time to devote in the day. This work is specially suitable to younger members of the Union. We have already had several names given in.

London members will, we hope, make a point of attending the dinner in honour of the released prisoners on the evening of the 24th at the Inns of Court Hotel. Tickets, price 2s. 6d., are on sale at 4, Clements Inn. We want those present to dress in purple, white, or green.

On March 30 our next deputation to the Prime Minister will take place. Tickets for the meeting at Carlton Hall in the afternoon are ready, and names of those willing to join the deputation should be sent at once to Miss Christabel Pankhurst, 4, Clements Inn, W.C. Some very encouraging responses have already been made, and we expect that this deputation, in which Lancashire women will join, will be a very representative one.

Marylebone.—A well-attended drawing-room meeting was held on Saturday at 114, Regent's Park Road, by Miss Agnes Ravenscroft. Miss Nourse was in the chair, and Miss Evelyn Sharp gave an excellent address on the militant tactics, incidentally explaining the women's action at the Albert Hall.

Wood Green and Bowes Park.—Miss Corson, in conjunction with the Bowes Park local Union, is working up these districts with a view to holding a large meeting, the date of which we hope to announce next week.

Acton and Ealing.—Miss Law and Miss Wallace Dunlop, with the aid of the Kensington Union, are opening up these districts. Committee rooms are being taken, and an indoor meeting arranged, the date of which will be announced later.

Putney and Fulham.—A business meeting will be held on Friday (5th), at 8 o'clock, in the Kelvedon Hall, Kelvedon Street, for the purpose of forming a local branch. It is earnestly hoped that those interested will make a special effort to attend.

Kensington.—Mrs. J. S. Brown is generously giving an At Home at the Mall Hall, The Mall, Kensington (two minutes from Notting Hill Gate Station), on Saturday, March 13. A most attractive programme, which includes recitations by Miss Lémouzin and a speech by Miss Evelyn Sharp, has been printed in purple, white, and green. Particulars from Mrs. J. S. Brown, 15a, Pambridge Crescent, W.

Flora Drummond.

WEST OF ENGLAND.

Shop and Committee Rooms.—33, Queen's Road (opposite Art Gallery) Clifton. Open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

At Homes.—Bristol: Victoria Rooms, every Monday, 3.30 to 5.30.

Stokes Croft: Assembly Rooms, meeting every Friday, 8 p.m.

Bath: Bean Nash Rooms, every Saturday, 3.30.

Miss Brackenbury's visit has given us great encouragement this week; she spoke at the At Home on Monday, when the chair was taken by Miss Clarence, who made a very able speech. Miss Brackenbury is speaking at Bridgwater on Friday and at Bath on Saturday (March 6), and at the Victoria Rooms on Monday. On Friday, when Mrs. Dove-Wilcox was in the chair, Mrs. Baldock was the speaker. New members joined, and two new workers told us of a scheme for making the movement known in an entirely new part of the West of England.

During self-denial week we are sending out batches of collectors to the tramway centres and other parts of the town from 9.30 to 6. Miss Malacchi has undertaken to organise this. On three evenings we are having a torch-light procession, each member carrying a Chinese lantern, singing and collecting as they march, and on Saturday (March 6) we finish the week's doings by a whist drive at the Ladies' Club, Royal York Crescent, which Mrs. Curtis has kindly secured for us for the evening. The refreshments are being given by several members, and tickets are being sold. Mrs. Goring is making marmalade, and another member is making sweets, for sale for self-denial funds.

Weston-super-Mare.—A great deal of canvassing has been done here. Miss Pethick and Miss Vera Wentworth have been very busy preparing for the two meetings to be held on Monday, March 8, one in the North Street Hall at 3.30 (for women only), and the other, a public meeting, in the Town Hall, at 8 p.m.

The Antis have been here with the usual result. Women who never gave a thought to the matter before are now keenly interested. "Yes, I'll come to your meeting," said one woman yesterday to our canvasser, "if it's only to see if you're as bad as the other people make out!" Others feel that it would be only fair to come to our meetings in order to hear both sides of the question. If the Antis would pave the way for us like this through all the unconverted parts of the country, so much the better.

LANCASHIRE.

Headquarters.—Manchester, 164, Oxford Road.

Local Offices.—Preston, 41, Glover's Court.

Rochdale, 84, Yorkshire Street.

At Homes.—Manchester: Onward Buildings, Deansgate, Fridays, 8-10.

Liverpool: Engineers' Rooms, 48, Mt. Pleasant, Tuesdays, 3-5, 8-10.

Preston: Glover's Court, Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m.

Rochdale: 84, Yorkshire Street, Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m.

Important Events.—Mrs. Pankhurst's Tour.

Thursday, March 18, Town Hall, Rochdale, 8 p.m.—Friday, March 19, Sun Hall, Liverpool, 8 p.m.—Saturday, March 20, Southport—Monday, March 22, Public Hall, Preston, 8 p.m.—Wednesday, March 24, Free Trade Hall, Manchester, 8 p.m.

Manchester.—This has been an exceptionally busy week, members having been actively occupied with practically two or three Union engagements each night. Most preparations have, of course, been leading up to Self-Denial Week. A cake and sweet stall flourishes in the entrance hall to our offices, and a literature stall in the garden has attracted buyers to both. Some members have had a very successful day with a piano-organ, and quite a large number are performing miracles with marzipan, oranges, matches, and sweets of all descriptions. We hope to arrange for a great flower sale on Saturday. An enterprising piano seller has offered to lend us a piano for open-air performances. On Monday evening I took part in a friendly debate on our "Tactics" with Mrs. Swanwick,

a well-known member of the N.E.W.S.S., and although it was held in a district where we have never held a meeting of any description (Kersall), almost half the votes recorded were in support of the proposition, "Are the Tactics of the Suffragettes likely to Advance the Cause?" The same night Mrs. Duncan lectured to a large audience, and Miss Dora Marsden, B.A., spoke to a crowded room at Hale—Miss Margaret Hewitt in the chair.

A large rally of members and friends was present at Friday's At Home, and a resolution:—

That this meeting calls upon the Government to transfer the Suffragist prisoners, now in Holloway, to the political offenders' division, and further demands that this Government shall render further imprisonment unnecessary by introducing a measure which shall give votes to qualified women this Session.

was carried enthusiastically and unanimously. Mrs. Wilson Bachelor, in seconding, said she would feel it an honour to take part in the next deputation, and three other women volunteered, amid enthusiasm, to follow her splendid example.

Liverpool.—Miss Rona Robinson, M.Sc., and Miss Mabel Capper, represented me at the exceedingly well-attended weekly Tuesday At Home. Miss Capper gave an account of the protest referred to on page 409, and Miss Rona Robinson spoke on Self-Denial Week, and the Exhibition. A Bazaar Secretary was chosen and arrangements made for self-denial efforts. In the coming week we hope to welcome Miss Mary Phillips here, and trust that by next week-end the campaign will be in full swing. The next Sun Hall meeting will take place on March 19, and all hands will be required "on deck."

Preston.—Financial details of the last Public Hall meeting will be found below. Members are occupied in self-denial efforts, and in preparations for the next meeting, Monday, March 22. Miss Alice Bamber has again consented to act as Ticket Secretary, and I hope to be able to render special assistance in the way of resident helper.

Rochdale.—To facilitate arrangements for the forthcoming meeting, Thursday, March 18, members have decided to hold a members' meeting on Wednesdays, with open At Homes on Saturday evenings, in their offices at 84, Yorkshire Street. They hope thus to reach a larger number of people, and to make the meeting thoroughly well known. I hope to visit Rochdale very shortly.

Southport.—The first of a series of weekly At Homes commenced last Saturday, when a crowded audience met at Miss Pownall's Café in Lord Street. Miss O'Sullivan, a thoroughly capable chairman, spoke on elementary principles, and drew special attention to self-denial and the Exhibition; expenses were cleared and 7s. worth of literature sold as a beginning. Miss O'Sullivan has consented to act as corresponding secretary for Southport, and I give her address—6, Park Road—so that sympathisers may communicate direct with her. Miss Henry has consented to act as literature secretary; her address is 6, Lime Street. Next week other important arrangements in connection with the Exhibition will, we hope, be followed up. Details as to Mrs. Pankhurst's forthcoming visit will be given later.

Financial Report.—Details are now to hand of the total incomes from the great meetings held to date in 1909. Summarised they are as follows:—

Manchester, January 19, per Ticket Secretary, Miss F. Hellawell:—By tickets and door money, £60 7s.; by collection, £12 0s. 1d.; by programmes, £2 8s. 5d.; total, £74 15s. 6d.

Southport At Home, per Miss O'Sullivan:—By collection, £9 8s. 6d.; by donations, £2 8s. 6d. (Miss O'Sullivan); total, £11 17s.

Liverpool, February 12, per Ticket Secretary, Miss Alice Burton:—By members' sales, £42 19s.; by door money (gross), £45 11s. 6d.; by collection, £16 12s. 10d.; by programmes, £3 18s.; by At Home collections, £2 4s. 6d. (per Mrs. Farrer); total £111 5s. 10d.

Preston, February 13, per Ticket Secretary, Miss Alice Bamber:—By members' sales, £13 10s.; by door money, £19; by collection, £3 17s. 10d.; by programmes, £1 10s. 3d.; total, £37 18s. 1d.

I am also sending the Treasurer the following sums:—per G. Garrett, Esq., West Derby Debating Society, 6s. 6d.; per Mrs. Farrer, from late Liverpool Union, cash in hand, £2 5s.; H. S., 6s.; per Mrs. Ratcliffe, Manchester members, £2 5s.; At Home, 13s. 6d.; Hale meeting receipts, per Miss M. Hewitt, £3 8s. 3d.; total £9 4s. 9d.

Mary E. Gawthorpe.

MIDLANDS.

Shop and Committee Rooms: 14, Ethel Street, Birmingham.

At Homes.—Birmingham: Midland Hotel, Tuesday, 3.30.

Priory Rooms, Old Square, Tuesday, 7.30.

Wolverhampton: St. Peter's Institute, Wednesdays, 7.30.

Important Events.—Coventry: Baths Assembly Rooms, March 16.

Mrs. Pankhurst.

Birmingham: Reception, Midland Hotel, 3.30, March 17. Mrs. Pankhurst.

Priory Rooms, 7.30, March 17.

In addition to all our work in Birmingham, we are successfully carrying the campaign into all the surrounding districts; wherever we go we leave behind a number of friends who will, we know, before long become active workers.

The Town Hall meeting was an even greater success than we had anticipated. Miss Pankhurst received an ovation the like of which no woman has ever experienced in Birmingham, and as her address proceeded the silence became intense until at the close a fresh storm of applause broke out. We are sending up this week the names of fifty new members, and we hope before long to send up another fifty. Another pleasing feature of our work here in Birmingham is the formation of a Men's League.

Invitations to the Reception on March 17, in the Midland Hotel, when Mrs. Pankhurst will give an address, have now been sent out. In the evening Mrs. Pankhurst will speak at the Priory Rooms. Members and friends please note that admission will be by card only. As there are only a limited number, it will be a case of "first come, first served."

Miss Jennings and Miss Mathews are sharing jointly the responsibility of organising the voluntary workers' night on Friday evenings from 6.30. Will helpers write to Miss Jennings, 104, Station Road, Kings Heath, or Miss Mathews, 69, Highfield Road, Saltley, saying when they can help?

Stechford and Yardley lie in the heart of Mr. Austen Chamberlain's constituency. As he is at present opposed to Women's Suffrage we intend to carry on a propaganda campaign all round this district, beginning with a meeting in the Stechford Council Schools on March 26, organised by Miss Neale. Dr. Helena Jones, who is such an indefatigable worker, spoke on Sunday at the Yardley I.L.P. Labour Church. As usual, her address was listened to with the greatest attention, and much sympathy was expressed at the close.

Barnt Green and Redditch.—A most successful meeting was held on Saturday, the hall being packed; much literature was sold and new members were made. Lady Isabel Margesson is very kindly giving a drawing-room meeting at Barnt Green House on Wednesday, March 10, at which I shall give an address. Things are looking well for the meeting in the Temperance Hall, Redditch, on March 18, which is being organised by Mrs. Skinner. The second speaker on this occasion will be Mrs. Kerwood. Tickets (reserved 6d.) may be obtained from Miss Baker, 65, Evesham Street, Redditch.

Coventry.—Several dinner-hour meetings will be held here during the coming week, some of which will be addressed by Mrs. Bessie Smith. These meetings are being held in order to prepare the town for our big meeting in the Baths' Assembly Hall on March 16, when Mrs. Pankhurst will be the chief speaker. Tickets, 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d., may be obtained from Miss Alice Lea, 25, Queen's Road, Coventry. Dr. Helena Jones is speaking at the first of the monthly social evenings on Wednesday evening, which, I am sure, will be a great success, and the forerunner of many others. Coventry members and sympathisers who will be able to help with the second Midland Exhibition stall should communicate with Mrs. Rice, who has kindly undertaken charge of the Coventry contributions.

Malvern.—Arrangements for the meeting here have now been completed. It will take place on March 18, at the Lyttleton Rooms. Mrs. Howey will preside, Dr. Helena Jones and myself being the speakers. Will members in and around this district, if they are able to help in any way, kindly write to Mrs. Howey at The Hurst, Cradley, Malvern.

I am forwarding the Treasurer this week £22 for tickets for the Town Hall meeting. All communications should be addressed to me at 49, Bristol Street, Birmingham.

Gladice C. Keevil.

YORKSHIRE.

Headquarters.—Bradford: 61, Meningham Lane.

At Homes.—Leeds: Arts Club, Blenheim Terrace, Woodhouse Lane, Wed.

8 p.m.

Important Events.—Leeds: Arts Club, Mrs. Clarke, Friday, March 12, at

8 p.m.

Bradford: Somerset Parlour, Mrs. Clarke, Monday,

March 15, at 8 p.m.

Miss Pankhurst's visit has, I am sorry to say, been unavoidably postponed, which is a great disappointment to us; but we know Miss Pankhurst will visit us as soon as possible, and in the meantime if ladies who have bought tickets for either the Coliseum or St. George's Hall meetings will return them to me I will gladly refund the money.

Mrs. Clarke is to come to us next week, and I hope we shall succeed in getting the Leeds Arts Club Room for Friday, March 12, and the Somerset Parlour, in Bradford, for Monday, March 15. Mrs. Clarke was only released from Holloway Prison on Saturday, and members will, I know, give her a warm welcome to Yorkshire. Admission to both the above meetings will be free, and supporters are asked to bring unconverted friends.

On Wednesday, February 24, I spoke at a drawing-room meeting, kindly given by two sympathisers in Leeds. Several of the women present had never attended a meeting before, and became very much interested. On Friday I explained our demand to some friends of Mrs. Beldon's in Bradford, and several promised to come to other meetings.

We are dividing Leeds and Bradford as for election purposes,

and shall have four and three divisions respectively. The divisional captain will be responsible for the work and workers in her constituency, and will also hold and work up small meetings and provide the speakers.

We mean to do well in self-denial week. The organ-grinding proves more successful than hawking, and we are having organs in both Bradford and Leeds. We close the week by a meeting in the Town Hall Square, in Leeds, on Saturday night, March 6. All donations for the Yorkshire campaign should be sent to me at 61, Manningham Lane, Bradford.

The Bradford Workers' Meeting and Speakers' Class will be held in the office on Tuesday next, 8 p.m., instead of Monday.

C. A. L. Marsh.

NEWCASTLE.

Headquarters.—38, Rye Hill.

At Homes.—Crosby's Café, Northumberland Street, Wednesdays, 3-5 and 8-10.

I am delighted to find such splendid enthusiasm among the members here; the work has been growing by leaps and bounds. I arrived on Monday evening, had an interview on Tuesday with Mrs. Atkinson, who put me in touch with the Newcastle members, and informed me of what had already been done in connection with Mrs. Pankhurst's Town Hall meeting on Monday, and thenceforth all our energies were devoted to the working up of that meeting—chalking pavements, sticking adhesive labels in our colours all over the town, giving away handbills at the Richter concert, and going out in a decorated waggonette on Saturday through the whole town and the outlying districts, getting out at different points and distributing handbills. On this occasion we also had a decorated van, with big posters, which paraded the town all day and attracted a great deal of attention. Handbills were left at the Conservative, Liberal, Socialist, and I.L.P. clubs, at all the hospitals, at the Royal Infirmary, the Armstrong College, and a great many schools, also on the tables of restaurants and refreshment rooms. Several large drapery establishments and the Co-operative Stores took large batches of handbills, promising to put them into customers' parcels. Open-air meetings were held in the Bigg Market and in the Haymarket, when handbills were distributed and VOTES FOR WOMEN sold. On Monday at 3 p.m. a reception was held at the Westgate Assembly Rooms, presided over by the Hon. Mrs. Parsons and Mrs. Taylor, to welcome Mrs. Pankhurst. Mrs. Clark, who was released from Holloway on Saturday, is the speaker at next Wednesday's At Homes, for which special cards in our colours are being distributed amongst members and friends.

J. A. Bouvier.

SCOTLAND.

Glasgow.

Office: 141, Bath Street.

At Homes.—141, Bath Street, Thursday, 8 p.m.
Charing Cross Hall, Saturday, 3 p.m.

Now that the bye-election is over, we turn our thoughts to Self-Denial Week. The women who are now imprisoned for their splendid action on February 24 will be denied all the pleasures and many of what we regard as the necessities of life for much longer than a week, and we want to second their action by showing the Government that methods of coercion only spur the women who are still at liberty on to further efforts. For every woman imprisoned we shall find a hundred who will deny themselves in some way to provide the funds for carrying on our war.

The Saturday At Home was again crowded to hear Miss Adela Pankhurst, who paid us a short visit in connection with the bye-election. The speaker on Saturday, March 6, will be Dr. Marion Gilchrist, on "The Militant Woman." Both this and the Thursday evening At Home were the means of adding to bye-election workers. On Thursday I spoke at a meeting of the Women Unionists' Association, held at Park Terrace, by kind permission of Colonel Smith Park.

Paisley.—The meeting at the Town Hall on Tuesday was a very successful one, largely owing to the assistance given by Miss Jean Bon, who has kindly consented to act as local secretary for the meeting in the new hall at the Y.M.C.A. on Monday, March 29, at 8 p.m. Further particulars will be given next week. All willing to help in selling tickets, distributing bills, and making this meeting known are asked to kindly communicate with Miss Jean Bon, Dunscore, Paisley, or with me at 141, Bath Street.

The Guarantee Fund has received the following contributions, for which we thank the Misses Fleming, £1 1s.; Mrs. Soddy, £1 1s.; Miss Wallace, £1; Mrs. Boyd, £1; Dr. Katharine Chapman, £2 2s.

G. M. Conolan.

Edinburgh.

Shop: 100, Hanover Street, Workers' Meeting, Mondays, 8 p.m.
At Homes.—24, Shandwick Place, Wednesdays, 4 p.m.
Society of Arts, 117, George Street, Thursdays, 8.30.

We were very fortunate last week in securing two flying visits from Mrs. Pankhurst, which greatly encouraged us in our work here. Her visit was chiefly in connection with the bye-election, and an account will appear in our campaign notice on page 408. Last Friday Mrs. Johnstone arranged a drawing-room meeting for teachers, who were much interested in Miss Joachim's account of our aims and methods. On the same afternoon Miss Marie Brackenbury addressed another drawing-room meeting held by Miss Mackenzie, and aroused much sympathy with our movement. Miss Ogston spoke with much success at the At Home at 24, Shandwick Place, on Wednesday (24) and also on Thursday afternoon at 117, George Street. This week (March 4) we had to omit our At Home on account of Mrs. Pankhurst's meeting, but it will take place, as usual, next Thursday, when all our friends will be welcome. On the same day we are also resuming our evening At Homes at the Marshall Street Hall. These will now be held on Thursday instead of Wednesday evenings. Tea, at 8 p.m., will be followed by speeches and an informal discussion. We want to make these evenings very bright and pleasant for those who have had a busy and tiring day. During the week we have been making final preparations for Mrs. Pankhurst's meeting in the Synod Hall on Thursday. Thanks to the energetic efforts of our workers, the tickets disappeared with satisfactory rapidity. Miss Joachim and Miss Esson Maule rode for us for two hours during the busiest part of the day on Wednesday and Thursday in Prince's Street and the neighbouring thoroughfares, and Miss Allen drove a prettily decorated brake about the city on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday to advertise the meeting.

Mrs. Stewart has kindly contributed £2 10s. towards the advertising expenses of Mrs. Pankhurst's meeting, to which an anonymous donor has also given £1.

F. E. M. Macaulay.

Aberdeen.

Office: Crown Mansions, 41½ Union Street.
At Homes.—Crown Mansions, 41½ Union Street, first Wednesday in every month at 3 p.m.; every Wednesday at 8 p.m.
Important Event.—The Music Hall, March 5. Mrs. Pankhurst.

I am greatly encouraged by the progress of the work here. Last Wednesday we had the pleasure of having Miss Adela Pankhurst at our Wednesday At Home. It was the first time she had spoken in Aberdeen, and she carried the entire audience with her in the very clever way in which she dealt with the present situation and the need for all women's co-operation in winning Votes for Women.

Mrs. Lyons and Mrs. Bryant have given me great assistance this week, and we have been able to visit many of the factories, both in the dinner hour and after work at night, and to advertise Mrs. Pankhurst's meeting. I want members to make known to Mrs. Pankhurst at this meeting what is the extent of their self-denial, and so to encourage others. We in Aberdeen must remember the devotion and self-denial of our dear Treasurer, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, and each one see to it that the exchequer does not diminish during her two months' incarceration in Holloway.

Next week we begin vigorous work for the great exhibition in May. Glasgow is giving one stall. Aberdeen must not be left behind. Exhibition promise cards are at the office, and I shall be glad to give or send them on application. If the response warrants it we shall set aside two evenings a week to meet at the office and work for the exhibition. I hope to see many suggestions during the next week. On Friday last the Speakers' Class migrated to the St. Clement's Debating Society, where some of our members who had not spoken before made excellent beginnings. The class will be continued every Friday at 7.30, and Miss McKay, who has much experience as a teacher, has promised to conduct it; we hope many more will join us.

I am sending the Treasurer 5s. 11d. this week taken in collections.

A. S. Flatman.



MRS.

OLIVER,

115, NEW BOND STREET, W.

DRESSES. COSTUMES. HATS.



DEBATE BETWEEN MRS. FAWCETT AND MRS. HUMPHRY WARD.

This long-expected event took place on Friday at the Passmore Edwards Settlement, Tavistock Square, when a large and enthusiastic audience filled the hall. Sir Edward Busk presided.

Mrs. Humphry Ward contended that the entrance of women into public life would tend to the degradation of politics, and moved:—

That in the opinion of this meeting the concession of the Parliamentary franchise to women is not necessary to the interests of women, and would be dangerous to the interests of the country.

Mrs. Fawcett having replied to the various points raised, the motion was put to the meeting, 74 voting for it and 235 against.

The *Times* in its report of this debate stated that 350 tickets of admission were assigned to the Suffragists and 150 to the representatives of the opposition movement. We are informed, however, that tickets were equally allotted to the two parties, but that, while the Anti-Suffragists refused to sell them to any but their own supporters, the Suffragists aimed at filling the hall with either party, knowing that once there Anti-Suffragists would be speedily converted.

THE ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

The next meeting of the Actresses' Franchise League will be held at three o'clock on Friday, March 5, at the Dover Street Studios, Dover Street, W. Miss Cicely Hamilton has kindly consented to take the chair. Miss Abadam, of the National Union, and Sir John Cockburn will be the speakers; Miss Alice Crawford will "receive" for the League. Not only members of the League, but their friends are cordially invited to be present.

On Tuesday, March 23, there will be a meeting of the League at 3, Bedford Street, Strand, W.C., at three o'clock, particulars of which will be given later, and also of the meeting on Friday, April 2, when Mrs. Frederick Mouillot has consented to be "hostess" for the League.

ADELINE BOURNE, Hon. Sec.

THE CONSERVATIVE FRANCHISE ASSOCIATION.

A drawing-room meeting on behalf of this Association was held on Wednesday afternoon at 15, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W. Local branches have been formed and meetings held in Bath and Clifton during the last few days, a resolution asking for the franchise for duly qualified women being passed practically unanimously.

DRESS IN THE COLOURS.

With snow on the ground and fog in the air it is difficult to think that spring is close at hand, and yet so rapidly do changes come that before these lines are in print we may find ourselves in brilliant sunshine and warm, balmy climate. Everyone is getting ready for the spring, and in a few days everyone will be laying in their spring clothing. May we appeal once more to members and friends of the Women's Social and Political Union to dress in the colours, purple, white, and green, which are now so well known. By so doing they will help to make it understood that women are standing together and supporting one another in the great fight in which we are engaged. The three colours, either singly or together, are capable of producing the most delightful effects. Now is the time to make your choice, and to make it in accordance with the colours of the Union.

Among the firms prepared to make dresses and hats in the colours is that of Charles Lee and Son. The head of the firm is full of suggestions for carrying out the idea, and at his showrooms (98 and 100, Wigmore Street) we have just seen some beautiful models, which could be adapted with very tasteful effect. One of these was a Princess unlined dress or walking coat (a useful design originated by this firm), which, in dark mauve, with braidings, etc., of green, or *vice-versa*, would look extremely well. A coat-and-skirt costume of one of the colours, with collar and waistcoat of the other, is both neat and pretty, and at our suggestion Mr. Lee is prepared to make, for one and a-half to two guineas, a useful Princess dress (this being the latest style) of purple or green, with the other colour introduced in the form of a stripe, or on the collar. The price of a similar frock in cotton is 11s. 9d. For wearing with evening dress one suggestion was bead and iridescent chains, etc., interspersed with pearls, in purple, white, and green. This part of the work is done largely by poor ladies, and is exquisitely turned out. On another page some illustrations of the gowns at 98, Wigmore Street may be seen.

THE WOMEN'S ARMY.

(Tune: "Marching through Georgia.")

Hear the sound of myriad feet that press to liberty,
Hear the song of triumph, for we march to victory,
Fight for women young and old, and women yet to be;

March with the Women's Army.

Hurrah! Hurrah! The fight is all but won;

Hurrah! Hurrah! We yield the flag to none.

Courage! See, our foemen falter, break their ranks and run!

March with the Women's Army.

Long the war has lasted: it must end within our day.

Shall we waste the work of women fallen by the way?

Shall we not be strong to conquer in the final fray?

March with the Women's Army.

Hurrah! Hurrah! We battle for the right,

Hurrah! Hurrah! For peace with honour fight;

Prisoners of war, we greet you! Victory is in sight;

March with the Women's Army.

—V. H. FRIEDLAENDER.

N.W.S.P.U. MEMBERS' PLEDGE CARD.

WOMEN in all parts of the country who are not as yet definitely enrolled as members of the National Women's Social and Political Union are invited to sign the members' pledge card, which they can obtain from the offices, 4, Clements-inn, and apply for membership. The pledge is as follows:—

I endorse the objects and methods of the Women's Social and Political Union, and I hereby undertake not to support the candidature of any political party at Parliamentary elections until women have obtained the Parliamentary vote.

There is an entrance fee of 1s. No definite subscription is fixed, as it is known that all members will give to the full extent of their ability to further the campaign funds of the Union.

—said a lady
the other day

I have been using Fels-Naptha soap the Fels-Naptha way for five years. I have recommended it to scores of my friends.

Some of them use it the Fels-Naptha way, and they have kept to it ever since.

But the others have been stubborn. They would go on in their own way with boiling water, and of course they have given Fels-Naptha up, because that isn't the Fels-Naptha way.

You see the point! If you will only be persuaded to use Fels-Naptha soap the Fels-Naptha way, you will keep to it. But if you use it your own way, with boiling water, please don't blame the soap.

Try it Fels-Naptha way next washing day. Money back if you wish. There!

Fels-Naptha

The soap with a Way of its own.

LOCAL NOTES.

Barnes W.S.P.U.—We held a public meeting here on Tuesday, February 23, when we were able to talk about Wednesday's deputation to Parliament. Miss Morrison and Mrs. Henry were the speakers. Questions were asked at the close of the speeches and ably dealt with by the speakers. A gentleman well known in Barnes asked if we would support a lady candidate for the Urban District Council. I replied that we could take no part in supporting any candidate for local government, as we were a union formed to agitate for the Parliamentary Franchise, and that we concentrated all our energies on that one issue. We circulated handbills and chalked well in Barnes to advertise the deputation. We are holding a drawing-room meeting at a member's house in a fortnight's time, and intend having an evening At Home at the hall at the end of March, particulars of which will be announced later. I hope all members of the W.S.P.U. living in Barnes will do their best to bring friends along, as we are greatly in need of help in making the At Homes known.

ALICIA ROSE.

Birmingham W.S.P.U.—The appeal for workers and also for contributions in money and kind in connection with the London "Exhibition in the Colours" in May is being met by a most generous response so far as the Birmingham W.S.P.U. is concerned. Dr. Helena Jones and Mrs. Lucy Calway led the way, and the untiring efforts of the latter, who is acting as joint Exhibition secretary along with Mrs. Edith Kerwood, are producing excellent results. Last week I intimated that particulars of further donations were forthcoming, and it is with great pleasure I have to report the following:—Mrs. Hill and Miss Amy Thompson, each ten shillingworth of goods; Mrs. and Miss Beck, thirty shillingworth; Mrs. Madeley (per Miss Saxelby), a worked table-centre; Miss Myers is making beaded necklaces; Mrs. Aldis has promised to send a silk Japanese dress (direct from Japan), an Indian tablecloth (from India) valued at a guinea, a child's silk frock, etc. Other important donations are promised. The Exhibition secretary (Mrs. Calway) desires to express her sincere thanks for the many kind letters she has received and offers of help, and to say that stall meetings will be held at the office (Ethel Street) on Mondays, March 1 and 16. Members and friends of the local Union please address communications relating to the Exhibition to Mrs. Calway, 125, Alcester Road, Moseley, Birmingham. The Treasurer (Miss Neale) reports that she has received 14s. 6d. members' subscriptions per Mrs. Aldis.

ELIZABETH REDFERN.

Brighton and Hove W.S.P.U.—Last Wednesday evening, at the time the deputation from Carlton Hall was on its way to the House of Commons, we held a meeting outside the Congress Hall, when an appreciative audience listened to Miss Hare. On Friday evening, while Mr. Haldane was speaking in the Dome at a meeting for men only, Miss H. Lightman spoke to a large crowd at Preston Circus, snow falling the greater part of the time. On Saturday Miss H. Lightman held another open-air meeting on the front. We have permission to collect in the streets for two days for Self-Denial Week. We made a start on Saturday; hope to continue and do better next Saturday. Mrs. Ward, of Richmond, kindly helped. On March 5 there will be a meeting at Miss Hare's, of San Remo, Hove. Members and friends kindly note and come at 8 o'clock. We have not yet got our rooms ready, but hope to soon. Meanwhile anyone wanting any information is invited to call at 50, Preston Street, and see Miss Turner.

M. S. T.

Chelsea W.S.P.U.—On Saturday, February 27, in spite of the inclement weather, we started our open-air collections for Self-Denial Week. We are concentrating our efforts at South Kensington, and with so many willing collectors we hope to collect a large sum. Promises of gifts for the Exhibition are still coming in. Mrs. C. M. Gouné has sent us a cheque for £10. Lady Scott Moncreiff has given us an introduction to a firm in the City, where we are to make a selection of Japanese prints which she has promised to pay for. The manager of a large factory in South London where numbers of women workers are employed has given us a supply of cardboard boxes for home-made sweets. Our committee has been enlarged by Miss M. Maud and Miss Ellen M. Lloyd expressing their willingness to join us. The week from March 12 to March 19 will be a special VOTES FOR WOMEN week. We all recognise that the sale of our paper is one of the best means of enlarging our Union, so it is hardly necessary to urge our members to come forward and volunteer to sell the paper in the streets during that week. There will be plenty of work for all, and names should be sent in at once to the heads of our divisions, or to Miss Webb, 103, Elm Park Mansions, who is our advertising secretary.

CHARLOTTE BLACKLOCK.

Forest Gate W.S.P.U.—Our next monthly meeting takes place in Earlham Hall on Monday, March 8, at 8 o'clock. Mrs. Bouvier has promised to speak for us. We shall be glad to receive more promises of help towards our contribution to the Woman's Exhibition. There is a splendid opportunity for those who are prevented from actually taking part themselves in the militant tactics. We have decided throughout Self-Denial Week to concentrate all our energies on collections in the street and at Forest Gate Station on Saturday, and also in selling literature and home-made cakes and sweets in the principal thoroughfares on the same day. We want more offers of assistance for this week, and shall be glad if as many members as possible will turn up at Forest Gate Station any time after eight on Saturday, March 6, when there will be work for all. The meeting of the Manor Park B.W.T.A., which I was asked to address, in February was very successful. The interest and sympathy displayed by the women were most encouraging. Many promised to come to our meeting on March 8. Our whist party held on February 27 was very successful. Our thanks are again due to Miss Hewitt, who organised the evening.

M. E. SLEIGHT.

Hendon W.S.P.U.—All Hendon members should now work for all they are worth, for one of our most indefatigable and earnest workers, Mrs. Fahey, is now in Holloway Prison. Will some of those who have taken no active part as yet come forward and offer to fill Mrs. Fahey's place? Three or four new members have been enrolled since our deputation was imprisoned. Will all our friends make sure of getting tickets for a concert shortly to be given in the Co-operative Hall? March 10 is the probable date. The proceeds will be devoted to defraying the cost of the materials purchased for making up for our N.W. London stall at the Exhibition. We have promised to provide £25 worth of goods, and, as our Union is not a large one, we need the utmost worth of goods, and we need the utmost help our friends can give. I specially appeal to local sympathisers to write or call upon any member of the committee they may know and ask for information or offer themselves as workers. The address of the secretary is 21, Ravenhurst Avenue, Hendon.

FRANCIS V. CRATON.

Ilford W.S.P.U.—The second of our public meetings was held on February 22 in Loxford Hall (Old Chapel). Mrs. Parker took the chair, and the Misses Friedlander and Hannah Lightman were the speakers. The latter gave an interesting and instructive address based on the King's Speech. The hall was well filled and literature found a ready sale. The next drawing-room meeting will be held on March 15, by the kindness of Mrs. Whitten, at 21, Coventry Road, when Mrs. Sleight, of Forest Gate, will preside. A public meeting has been arranged for the following Monday, March 22, at Loxford Hall. Miss Evelyn Sharpe will be the chief speaker. If any sympathisers can spare time on Fridays or Saturdays to help in the sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN or in advertising our public meetings we shall be sincerely grateful for their help. In such case will they kindly apply to Miss Harvey, 27, Norfolk Road, Seven Kings?

M. HARVEY.

Kensington W.S.P.U.—We had good open-air meetings last week, and did a lot of chalking and bill-distributing to announce the Women's Parliament. There was a good attendance of our members at Carlton Hall, and we all felt very proud indeed when we saw our two delegates march out with the deputation. One of them—Miss Mary Lethbridge—was arrested, and is now in Holloway; the second was not arrested, and is giving her time to the work of Self-Denial Week. There is much to be done, as we are collecting at four stations during the whole week and holding open-air meetings as near the collecting-boxes as we can get to call attention to them and explain their meaning. Miss Postlethwaite has arranged to act as pavement artist, and hopes her cartoons of Mr. Asquith and his colleagues will bring in a substantial contribution to the fund. Miss Gibbs is going to sell sweets in the streets, and hopes to make a good deal of money. The marmalade made by two new members—Miss Cann and Miss Wood—is selling well, and we seem likely to have more orders for it than we can take. Our shop windows attract much attention. On Wednesday we placed the "Haunted House" cartoon in a prominent position, and on Thursday made a "Holloway" corner, with dolls in prison dress and copies of Holloway cutlery made by Miss Postlethwaite. On Friday the display of the cartoon in VOTES FOR WOMEN attracted and delighted the public. This week we have an illuminated sign bearing the words "Self-Denial Week" and some explanatory notices asking for contributions. Our Wednesday At Home was well attended. Miss Crales made her maiden speech with so much success that many other members were encouraged to try, and we hope to have a new speaker make her first effort each week.

LOUISE M. HAYES.

Nottingham W.S.P.U.—The next members' meeting will be held at Morley's Café on Wednesday, March 17, at 7.30 p.m. Miss Lewis, of Ilkeston, is taking the chair, and Miss Pethick, of Mansfield, has promised to speak. Miss Helen Watts, always one of the most loyal and vigorous workers in our local Union, has been brave enough to lead the way among the Nottingham women and go forward into the fighting line to represent Nottingham in the deputation to Mr. Asquith, led by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, on February 24. She was arrested in Parliament Square, and is now in Holloway. Mrs. Evans, the Exhibition Secretary, will be very glad to receive promises of money or material from members and friends. The sewing meetings are busy making things ready for May. We want more help and offers from members willing to hold sewing meetings at their own homes. There will be a sewing meeting at Mrs. Shepherd's house, Cyprus Road, on March 12. Special contributions this week for the Exhibition Fund are £1 is. from Mrs. Thorpe, 10s. from A. Friend.

C. M. BURGIS.

Stoke-on-Trent W.S.P.U.—I have to report the result of an interview with the chief librarian of the Stoke-upon-Trent Free Library, asking that VOTES FOR WOMEN may take its place along with newspapers and periodicals in the reading-room of that institution. The matter was brought before the Library Committee and passed unanimously, so that in future I am to supply our paper there each week. The importance of the present agitation is also taking effect in the ancient town of Leek, the centre of the silk industry, and situated twelve miles from Stoke in the Staffordshire moorlands. An important debate was held there recently, and the motion that "The franchise be extended to women on the same terms as it now is or may be granted to men" was carried. All communications and inquiries for literature should be addressed to me at 22, Penkville Street, off London Road, Stoke-on-Trent.

(Mrs.) ADELINA REDFERN-WILDE.

Streatham W.S.P.U.—A successful whist drive was held on Friday, February 19. We had a pleasant evening, at which we welcomed many strangers and even a few Anti-Suffragists. The room and the refreshments were kindly given by Miss Willson, and the prizes—copies of Mill's "Subjection of Women"—were artistically covered by Miss K. Tyson, so that our expenses were almost nil, and we were able to hand over nearly the whole of the proceeds to the Sewing Committee, our main object in having the whist drive being to raise funds for the Streatham stall at the Exhibition in May. So successful was the evening that we hope in a short time to repeat this attempt to draw into our Union those women who hitherto have known nothing about us.

N. E. SMITH.

Wimbledon W.S.P.U.—An enthusiastic meeting was held on Wimbledon Green on Sunday, February 21. Miss Nellie Smith came over from Streatham at short notice to address the meeting, and Mr. E. D. Duval from Wandsworth. Mrs. Lorisgnol took the chair. Already thriving, the Wimbledon Union seeks to increase its activities by the addition of new members who can give personal advice. In a place so happily situated for open-air meetings, outdoor speakers would be of very great value, and, now that the fine weather is coming again, will residents in the neighbourhood who think they can help in this way (or in any other) please write to the Hon. Secretary, Fabo, Marryat Road, Wimbledon Common?

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Fighting is men's sphere.
Men cannot fight with bats and swords in the air.

Men have never flown in the past;
Why should they want to do so now?

Men have quite enough to do without adding to their responsibilities.

Men have not succeeded in flying as well as eagles.
Let them leave flying to the eagles.

At a Popular Saturday Evening Concert at a Baywater chapel a man addressed the audience during the interval on "Woman." His remarks in reference to the Suffrage movement proving full of ignorance and prejudice, two members of the W.S.P.U. who were present sent up to the chairman a bill announcing a forthcoming meeting of the Union in St. James's Hall, which the chairman courteously included in his announcements at the close.

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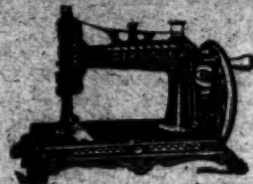
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